# MAGAZINE OF THE MARINES 30c

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BANGKOK LIBERTY . . . Marines on the town in exotic surroundings.

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FEBRUARY, 1956

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Donald L. Dickson Editor and Publisher

Robert W. Arsenault General Manager

Karl Schuon Managing Editor

Robert N. Davis Production Editor

Louis R. Lowery Photographic Director

Ronald D. Lyons Assistant Managing Editor

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WEST COAST BUREAU Robert A. Suhosky H. B. Wells

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Steven Marcus "J" "W" Richardson

Circulation Manager Joseph W. Patterson

**Advertising Representative** Nolle T. Roberts

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### THIS MONTH'S COVER

Pictured on our cover is a typical Naval Aviation Cadet, in training at Pensacola, Florida—the "Annapolis of the Air." He's a former enlisted Marine and his name is David H. Scofield. Right now, he's neither fish nor fowl, but if he successfully completes his training, he'll earn his wings of gold and take to the air, wearing the flight gear of a Navy or Marine Corps pilot. Photo by SSqt. Woodrow W. Neel, Leatherneck Staff Photographer.

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Edited by MSgt. Donald F. Ball

#### FMAW DECORATIONS

Dear Sir:

During the Korean War, elements of the First Marine Aircraft Wing were awarded the Army Distinguished Unit Emblem.

My question: Who rates this emblem at the present time? Am I correct in my opinion that only people in the elements at the time of the presentation are eligible?

Also, I am curious as to why it is not mentioned in the Navy and Marine Corps Awards Manual.

> lst Lieut. Charles E. Reed H&MS, MAG-33, MCAS, El Toro,

Santa Ana. Calif.

• Decorations and Medals Branch, HQMC, states: "The Army Distinguished Unit Emblem is authorized only to those members of the First Marine Aircraft Wing who participated in the action for which the Wing has been cited for service in Korea, i.e. during the period November 22 to December 14, 1950. This award was circulated in ALMAR NR 38 dated August 29, 1951.

No Army Distinguished Unit Citations are published in the Navy and Marine Corps Awards Manual."—Ed.

### COLOR GUARD

Dear Sir:

In the November, 1955, issue of Leatherneck I noticed in the photo of the 8th and Eye Marines passing in review (page 16) that the two guards of the color guard were marching with their rifles on opposite shoulders. Are they correct in marching in that manner?

SSgt. Robert L. Drbousek H&S Co., 2nd MedBn., Second Marine Division, FMF, Camp Lejeune, N. C. ● You have sharp eyes, Sergeant. The 8th and Eye color guard is correct, though. Ground rules, approved by the Commandant, permit them to carry their rifles in the manner depicted.—Ed.



STAMP APPEAL

Dear Sir:

I have a little brother, age 9, who is afflicted with polio. He does not get around too well but he has started a stamp collection. Maybe if you publish this, some Marines stationed overseas would send my brother some foreign stamps. His address is: Joe Campbell, 38 Pembrook Dr., Kenilworth, N. J.

Sgt. William I. Campbell H&MS, MAG-35,

MCAS, Cherry Point, N. C.

• Some of our readers are certain to have stamps to send your brother to help him get his collection started.
—Ed.

### MOP APPLICANT

Dear Sir:

I was recalled to active duty in September, 1950, and released to inactive status in October, 1951. Do I rate mustering out pay?

Please tell me the correct procedure to obtain this MOP.

J. E. Johnson Box 143

Roanoke Rapids, N. C.

◆ Your service qualifies you for MOP. To obtain your MOP, send your DD214 Form, which you received with your release from active service together with a request for payment of MOP due you to:

Commandant of the Marine Corps

(Code DGK)
Records Service Section
Headquarters, Marine Corps,
Washington 25, D. C.

It you don't have your DD214 Form, list all the pertinent facts of your active service: when ordered to active duty, where and when you served overseas, when released, and also your rank and serial number. It will take approximately two months to process your claim.—Ed.

### TENNIS SHOES

Dear Sir:

After finishing the GMST, several of us discussed the questions. One of the questions was: "If you are going on a night 'recon' patrol, which of these would you not take? (a) utility cap. (b) steel helmet, (c) tennis shoes, (d) a wool shirt."

Several of the "salts" felt that the object to be left behind would be the steel helmet. But others felt the obvious gear to be left would be the tennis shoes.

Combat "vets" claimed they always went on patrol wearing utility hats and tennis shoes. Yet others stated that you should never, never go into combat without the helmet and that the Marine Corps doesn't issue tennis shoes.

What is the right choice? Does a well-dressed Marine go into battle with his steel helmet and regulation shoes; or does he charge forth without helmet, but well-shod in his tennis shoes? If the shoes, where do they come from, and do you spit-shine them?

Pfc Charles H. Gill VMF-224

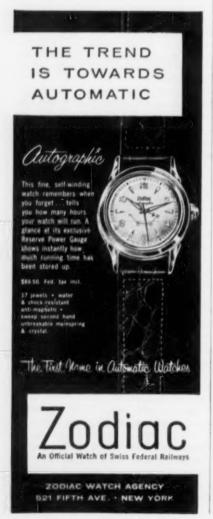
Columbus, Ohio

● Training Section, HQMC, has this to say: "Steel helmet" is the correct answer. All gear which may produce noise as a result of knocking against something, scraping brush or dropping, is left behind when a 'recon' patrol is undertaken. Tennis shoes were issued in Korea for use of 'recon' patrols. Remember that the mission of a 'recon' patrol is to gather information. Combat is avoided except as a last resort."

The Marine Corps' supply system is fully capable of supplying troops in the field with every required item—from dress blues to tennis shoes. And, Ptc Gill, if there's an order to spit-shine tennis shoes, it'll be with a high gloss!—Ed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)





### **Behind the Lines**



THE ADOPTION OF A new MOS job structure in 1949 snuffed the candles of a 116-year era of Sergeant Major and First Sergeant ranks in the Corps. But with Headquarters' recent release of the lists found on pages 68 and 69 of this issue, Marines will again be wearing the distinctive insignia of their positions.

The rank of Sergeant appeared first in the 13th Century and, gradually, became the rank of the chief tenant of a knight's military retinue. Since there were no standing armies in those days, it is difficult to determine whether the post was of commissioned or noncommissioned status. The fact, however, that the duty was analogous to that of a modern executive officer or chief of staff could well have lifted the rank to the commissioned level.

In the 16th and 17th Centuries, the birth and development of the standing army added the Sergeant Major and the Sergeant Major General to the ranks of the military. British Army records, dating back to 1518, indicate that the Sergeants Major were considered the foremost soldiers of their units. In 1690, the titles of Sergeant Major and Sergeant Major General were dropped from the roster of commissioned officers, but the 17th Century custom of shortening the original forms in correspondence brought into use the ranks of Major and Major General. In the 18th Century the position of Sergeant Major was re-introduced in the British service.

It is evident that for four centuries the duties of the Sergeant

Major have remained remarkably constant. Whether commissioned or noncommissioned, the post has been that of the chief soldier in direct command of the troops in a unit, with the responsibility for the organization's drill, discipline and administration.

History does not record Sergeants Major in the Continental Marines. The employment of Marines as small detachments organized for service on shipboard and only on rare occasions as companies or battalions ashore, would seem to indicate that Sergeants Major were, for the most part, un-

The first authorization for a Sergeant Major as a permanent position in the U. S. Marine Corps was made in 1833. However, actual practice preceded the official edict by 30 years. On January 1, 1801, Archibald Summers was appointed to the office of Sergeant Major which he held until his discharge in June, 1802. It is not known whether an immediate successor was appointed, but records show that in August, 1804, Alexander Forrest was named Sergeant Major and served in the rank until his death in 1832 at the age of 70.

The expansion of the mission and activities of the Marine Corps down through the years has necessitated the establishment of large permanent units at bases ashore. Consequently, larger groups of Marines have been appointed to the senior noncommissioned officer rank-and they've all been successors to the original someunofficial Sergeant Archibald Summers.

In spite of the fact that the duties in the realm of command may have decreased, and increased in the responsibilities of administration the high esteem for the rank remainsa fact evidenced by the official terms of the Marine Corps on the eligibility of individuals for the rank: "The Sergeant Major shall be appointed from an outstanding First or Gunnery Sergeant with long and varied

Kal A Schnow

### SOUND OFF

[continued from page 3]

### TOT TRANSPORTATION

Dear Sir

In regards to Mrs. Tallman's letter (November, 1955, issue) requesting the minimum age for transportation of children to Hawaii:

My family flew over from Moffett Field, NAS, San Francisco to Hawaii August 28, 1955, when my youngest child was 45 days old. My family's travel orders referred to ALNAV 30-54, which might be of assistance to those contemplating such travel.

Incidentally, the age for overseas travel by ship is still six months or

I would like to add that we received wonderful treatment from Navy Squadron VR-5, all the flight personnel and all passengers, as well. Had a very enjoyable trip,

SSgt. G. H. Michael 45-556 Duncon Dr.,

Kancohe, Oahu, T. H.

• Thank you, sergeant, for taking the time to tell our readers about overseas air travel as you've experienced it.— Ed.

### OLD TIME SHOTS

Dear Sir:

My introduction to your excellent magazine came a short time ago when I met a retired Marine in Frankfort, Ind.

The conversation didn't "naturally turn" to shooting. It started there. My inquiry, "Did you know Gunnery Sergeant Morris Fisher?" brought out the November, 1954, issue of your magazine with its fine article on the Old Master. Better yet, I was presented with the copy so that the article could be added to a rather extensive collection of like items.

I remember Fisher coming around to visit our team coach at (Camp) Perry back in the early 1920's. The coach, Major Fred S. Hird, was Olympic small-bore champion, Stockholm, Sweden, 1912. That was a rarefied atmosphere for the skinny young recruit who was privileged to listen in. Fisher was already so well-known in Europe that a well-centered 300 meter 10 was called a "Fisher Bull."

After some years in the shooting game, I think Fisher's advice as given at the end of the article sums up everything very neatly for the individual who aspires to skill with rifle or pistol. "Anyone can be an expert shot. Just

get off your dead end and snap in."

Major C. J. Smith, Inf. Hq Gp 2128 ASU

Ft. Knox, Ky.

 Thank you, Major, for your comments on shooting. We're always glad to hear from our readers.—Ed.

#### IN RESERVES WITH A BANG

Dear Sir:

I am a regular and when I'm discharged I'd like to join an active Reserve unit. At present my MOS is 2336, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician. I know of no Reserve units which carry this or a similar MOS and I was wondering, if I joined a Reserve unit, would I have to drop my current MOS and pick up an MOS in the Reserve unit?

Corp. John R. Adams MABS 12, MAG-12

First Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF c/o FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

● You won't have to drop your present MOS regardless of the Reserve unit you join, according to the Division of Reserve, HQMC. They suggest that an Air Reserve Unit may well be able to make use of your present skills and advise you to contact your nearest air unit when you're discharged.—Ed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)





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Leatherneck receives many letters requesting information concerning members of the Marine Corps, and other branches of the service. Condensations of these letters are published in this column as a service to our readers.

To avoid errors, all names and addresses must be printed or typed.

Former Marine Emmitt B. Turner, P. O. Box 123, Highway 183, Holiday Mctel, Irving, Texas, to hear from former Marine Anthony J. DOWDLE, with whom he served during WWI, or anyone knowing his present whereabouts. Former Marine Oran B. Focks, 1102 N. Main St., Guymon, Okla., to hear from anyone who served with B Company, 1st Corps, MT Bn., FMF Pacific and Corps Trans. Co., H&S Bn., FMF Pacific, during WWII.

Pfc Walter G. Reed, Marine Barracks, NAD, Charleston, S. C., to hear from Major William E. SWEATNAM whose last known address was Wpns-Co., 3d Bn., Fifth Marines, First Marine Division.

. . .

Mrs. Albina Cherskov, mother of Pfc John S. Cherskov, 6459 S. Paulina St., Chicago 36, Ill., would like to hear from anyone who knew her son while he was in the Corps.

Former Marine Curtis R. Bergstrom, 1901 W. Belle Plaine Ave., Chicago 13, Ill. to hear from former Marine Fred MADDEN.

. . .

Pfc and Mrs. Wayne Willoughby, H&MS-15 MAG-15, MCAS, El Toro, Calif., to hear from Pfc Page W. ARMSTRONG, whose last known address was MAD, U. S. Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Florida.

Miss Marti Lou Campbell, 1226 W. 48th St., Los Angeles, Calif., to hear from Corp. Calvin CURLEY, of the First Marine Division.

. . .

Corp. James M. Rogman, H&S Co., 1-2-2, Camp Lejeune, N. C., to hear from Corp. Gilbert "Scott" ROBERT-SON and Corp. Charles J. GARRETT.

. . .

Former Marine Eldon (Al) Canning, 36818 Gooddard Rd., Romulus, Michigan, to hear from former Marine Albert E. OWENS, with whom he served in 1952 at Camp Lejeune, N. C.

. . .

Corp. and Mrs. M. W. Ehlo, 1012 Dana St., Mountain View, Calif., to hear from Corp. Kenneth SIMMONS and Corp. DOUGLAS, both of whom were stationed at Moffett Field, Calif., in 1954.

Former Marine Dave Bulk, 600 West Mantauk Highway, Babylon, Long Island, N. Y., to hear from anyone who served with him during World War II in Hq. Sq. or VMF 224 on Roi-Namur in the Marshalls.

. . .

Mr. John T. Colleran, 3701 4th St., S. E., Rochester, Minn., to hear from TSgt. Jeff D. CHAPPELL, or anyone who served in B. Co., 1st Bn, Seventh Marines, First Marine Division, between April 1952, and May 1953.

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Corp. and Mrs. Thomas H. Allen, 235 Dougherty, Fallbrook, Calif., to hear from Marine Wayne (Brownie) BROWNLEE, or anyone knowing his whereabouts.

Sgt. Alfred R. Turner, Marine Corps Recruiting Sub-Station, Butte, Montana, to hear from Corps. Norman O. BROWN and Lester M. CLARK, who served aboard the USS Iona.

Sgt. Eddie Zoromski, Cas. Co., H&S Bn, MCRD, Parris Island, S. C., to hear from Sgt. Earnest E. MAIS, whose last known address was First Anglico, FMF, or anyone knowing his whereabouts.

Miss Sally Ann Blake, 2107½ W. 54th St., Los Angeles, Calif., to hear from Corp. Huston T. ADAMS, of the First Marine Division.

. . .

Pfc Charles Behler, MAG-32, MABS-32, Cherry Point, N. C., to hear from Pfc Irvin E. TEEKIN, whose last known address was Plt. 266, 4th Bn, San Diego, Calif.

Former Marine Lester E. Dutcher, 1212 N. Rhode Island Ave., Mason City, Iowa, to hear from Sgt. Robert ASHOFF, whose last known address was Artillery Section, Ord. School, Quantico, Va.

Former Marine Everett Dietz, 901 Baltimore, Waterloo, Iowa, to hear from Robert A. SMITH and Paul J. KUEHL, of Iowa, who were in Platoon 923 at San Diego, Calif., in October, 1942.

\* \* \*

TSgt. John C. Nelson, I&I Staff, 101st Spl. Inf. Co., USMCR, USNMCRTC, Masonic Building, 10th & Van Buren Sts., Topeka, Kan., to hear from anyone who served with Pfc Lawrence H. CLOUSE, K. Co., 3rd Bn, Third Marines, Third Marine Div., on Guam. CLOUSE was reported killed in action on 21 July 1944.

Mr. Victor C. Yambor, 3847 N. Springfield Ave., Chicago 18, Ill., to hear from men of the Marine Detachment, USS San Francisco, concerning a reunion.

Mr. Howard O'Neil, 705 W. Cleveland St., Belleville, Ill., to hear from Corp. Thomas CURRY, who served with the First Marine Division Band in Korea.

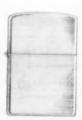
Former WM Janet Clemmer, 99 Gilmer Ave., Gastonia, N. C., to hear from Lieut. Don ATHA, whose last known address was MCAS, El Toro, Calif.



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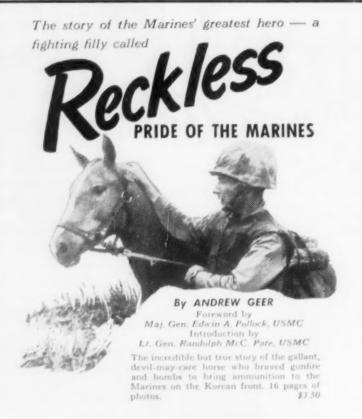
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### SOUND OFF

[continued from page 5]

#### DIVING PAY

Dear Sir:

When I was stationed on Oahu in '54 and '55, I attended diving school at the Pearl Harbor Sub Base. Two classes went through. I was in the second class.

The first class received hazardous duty pay two weeks after completion of the school. When I finished, I was sent back to the States. Two months later I inquired about the pay and was told it must go through HQMC and Camp Pendleton.

Recently we got the word we would not get this money at all. The way I heard it, someone made the mistake of putting "student" and not "TAD." Does "student" or "TAD" have anything to do with receiving the hazardous duty pay?

> Pfc Douglas E. Jones 1st Amphib Recon Co., FMF, Pacific,

Camp Pendleton, Calif.

· Your case was referred to the Regulations and Directives Section, HQMC, who gave us this information: "If Pfc Jones was attending the course of instruction in connection with aqua-lung training conducted at the U.S. Submarine Base, P. H., he may be entitled to incentive pay for the performance of hazardous duty while undergoing that training on the basis of the Assistant Comptroller General of the United States' decision B-123829, dated July 21, 1955. Prior to this decision, members of the Marine Corps undergoing this type of training were not paid hazardous duty pay. Jones should consult his disbursing officer with respect to any claim he may desire to submit for incentive pay."-Ed.



### ANYONE FOR M-1

Dear Sir:

I would like to know if it's possible to get an M-1 rifle. If so, how do I go about acquiring one?

Pfc Eric H. Warnick MT Ser. Co., Second Ser. Regt. Second Marine Division, FMF Camp Lejeune, N. C. • Here are the details on how to obtain an M-1:

Almost any citizen can become eligible to purchase an M-l at its replacement cost to the government if he has never been convicted of a felony.

You must be a member of both the National Rifle Association and of a shooting club approved by the Director of Civilian Marksmanship. There are more than 3000 DCM clubs and the name and address of the DCM-approved club nearest you may be obtained by writing to: NRA, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N. W., Washington 6, D. C. In addition to nominal club dues, you'll also have to pay \$4 NRA dues.

You then will be eligible to purchase one M-1 from the Army for \$98 plus \$2.50 for packing and handling. Your order should be sent to: Commanding Officer, Letterkenny Ordnance Depot, Chambersburg, Pa., Att: MISMA (ORDKE-OBB).

You should specify that you want a "Rifle, U. S. Caliber .30 M-1 B001-7266476." Enclose a certified check or postal money order payable to the "Treasurer of the United States."

Also enclose your current NRA and club membership cards, plus a three-cent stamped, self-addressed envelope for the return of the cards.

The rifle will be shipped express collect to your return address unless you specify otherwise.—Ed.



UNIFORM FOR LIBERTY

Dear Sir

Can I wear a tropical shirt without chevrons as a civilian shirt with civilian trousers? I was told this was O. K. but no one seems to agree with me.

Pfc John F. Gregory MABS-17, MWSG-17

First Marine Aircraft Wing, FMF, c/o FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

Strange as it seems, you're right. MCM 49003.2 states: "No part of the prescribed uniform, except those items which are not exclusively military in character, shall be worn with civilian clothing. a. Items authorized for wear with civilian clothing by men include raincoats without chevrons, shirts without chevrons, footwear, socks, gloves, drawers and undershirts." Of course, it is a commanding officer's prerogative to prescribe the liberty uniform for the



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AH69

members of his command and he may choose to disallow such items as levis, polo shirts and "shirts without chevrons."—Ed.

### EARLY RELEASE FOR SCHOOL

Dear Sir

MCMemo 73-55 states that an individual may be released from service up to 90 days early so as to start a semester in a college or university.

Nothing is mentioned concerning preparatory schools. I would like to take a refresher course before entering college, and was wondering if I could be released early to enter prep school.

> Sgt. J. B. Horvath HqCo., HqBn., MT,

Third Marine Division, FMF, c/o FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

Paragraph 1b(1) of MCMemo 73-55 states: "The requested college or university must be a recognized institution of higher education. The college or university normally must be one which is accredited by an Association of Accrediting Institutions of Higher Education."

The U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Education Directory, Part 3, entitled "Higher Education" is the reference used to determine whether the college or university is accredited. According to the Separation and Retirement Branch, HQMC, preparatory schools are not considered an institution of higher education. Therefore, early releases to enter prep school are not authorized.—Ed.

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## Corps Quin

- 1. The color yellow, on a military map, is used to indicate:
  - a. Restricted areas
  - b. Friendly installations
  - c. Contaminated areas
- 2. The BAR is\_operated.
  - a. Recoil
  - b. Gas
  - c. Manually
- If you were wounded in the heel and needed a tourniquet, it should be applied:
  - a. Around the ankle
  - b. Below the knee
  - c. Above the knee
- 4. To sterilize water, it should be boiled a minimum of minutes.
  - a. 10
  - b. 20
  - c. 30
- 5. The average rate of aimed fire for the M-1 rifle is rounds per minute.
  - a. 2
  - b. 30
  - c. 40



- 6. The field protective mask (gas mask) does not provide protection against:
  - a. Carbon monoxide
  - b. Tear gas
  - c. Arsine



- After you have thrown the fragmentation hand grenade, it explodes within \_\_\_\_\_ seconds.
  - a. 1 to 2
  - b. 3 to 6
  - c. 7 to 8
- 8. The fragmentation hand grenade can be thrown accurately at ranges up to yards.
  - a. 25
  - b. 35
  - c. 50
- The single point of the chevron is placed\_ inches below the shoulder seam.
  - a. 4
  - b. 5
  - c. 6
- 10. Letters not more than inch are used to mark clothing.
  - G. 72
  - b. 3/4
  - c. 1

See answers on page 71. Score 10 points for each correct answer: 10 to 30 Fair; 40 to 60 Good; 70 to 80 Excellent; 90 to 100 Outstanding.

### SOUND OFF

[continued from page 9]

#### NEW RESERVE REGS

Dear Sir

We've been discussing the new Reserve Bill in our barracks and how it affects those of us on active duty now. So far, we've had two or three different interpretations, so we'd like to be set straight on it. Just how does the Reserve Forces Act of 1955 affect the military obligation of those already in active service or in the Reserve before August 9, 1955?

Pfc M. L. Duffer H&S Co., (Band) Third Marines

Third Marine Division, FMF, c/o FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

The Reserve Forces Act of 1955 DOES NOT reduce the military obligation for persons who entered the Armed Forces prior to August 9, 1955. However, for those who have assumed an eight-year obligation, and who would like to accelerate completion of their Ready Reserve time, a special incentive program, called the "One Year Enlistment Program," has been set up.

MCMemo 75-77 lists the regulations for this program in the Marine Corps. This program is limited ONLY to those who have been released from active duty in the Marine Corps AFTER August 9, 1955, following the expiration of an enlistment in the Regular Marine Corps or on completion of a tour of extended active duty of two years or more; have a remaining Ready Reserve obligation of more than one year; volunteer to serve in an organized unit for one year subject to the 45-day training penalty for failure to participate; and are accepted for assignment to an Organized Marine Corps Reserve Unit on or before July 1, 1957.

Upon completion of that one-year assignment, the Marine will have fulfilled his entire Ready Reserve obligation and will be eligible to spend the remainder of his obligated military service in the Standby Reserve.

The advantage of this program is that by participating with a Reserve Unit for one year, you can quality for and transfer to the Standby Reserve, with lesser mobilization liability, for the rest of your eight-year obligation. Men enlisted prior to August 9, 1955, have no legal obligation to participate in Reserve training. But if they don't, they will remain in the Ready Reserve, subject to mobilization in any emergency, limited or otherwise, for the remainder of their eight-year obligation.—Ed.



At last! A Marine ring of quality and design striking enough to quickly identify the United States Marine in uniform or civilian dress. This is no ordinary ring merely bearing the insignia of the Marine Corps. This beautiful signet has been adopted officially by the Marine Corps League as the mark of the fighting Marine. A finely tooled gold Marine Corps emblem mounted on a red ruby stone, flanked by historic Tun Tavern and the Iwo Jima flag raising. The quality and distinctive character of this ring make it a lifetime souvenir of which any Marine can be proud. You, as Marines, have earned the right to wear our official ring. Wear it proudly.

AVAILABLE ONLY THROUGH THE MARINE CORPS EXCHANGES AND THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE. Only men who have earned the title of United States Marine may wear this ring. Its sele is rigidly controlled to prevent anyone undeserving of this title from purchasing or wearing this signet.

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ADDRESS			-
CITY AND STATE			
Your Size		\$25 for 10 Men's Ring	K Gold
Her Size		\$13 for Sterli	ng Men's
Postage and Federal		Ring	
tax included. No		\$17 for 10	K Gold
C.O.D.		Marine "Swee	theart"

#### LILLI IS BACK

Dear Sir:

My most sincere apologies to the Corps and especially to my Marine friends who wrote me and had their letters returned. I am truly sorry.

You see, shortly after Leatherneck can my story and picture I was filling engagements in Nassau, Jamaica, Havana and Miami. I had left a forwarding address, but apparently it was lost in the shuffle.

So here's to all you wonderful Marines! Do forgive me for not answering your letters. I just never received them. But you can write me now.

> Sincerely yours, Lilli Marlyne Box 873,

Chicago 90, Illinois

· Stand by, Lilli .-- Ed.

#### MUSINGS OVER MIAMI

Dear Sir

Was the Lejeune Road (42nd Ave.) in Miami that extends from the main

gate or "Lejeune Road Gate," Marine Corps Air Station, Opa-Locka to Coral Gables in south Miami named for General John A. Lejeune?

Where was the Marine Corps Air Station (Curtiss Field, I believe) that was in Miami in 1918 located? I read the article on Miami in the Leatherneck "Post of the Corps" feature and it mentioned the old air base, but did not give its location.

Corp. Thomas R. Carroll, MCAS,

Miami, Fla.

● The records of the Historical Branch, HQMC, do not say whether the street in Miami, Florida, (which is spelled "Lejeune Road" on current maps and directories) was named for Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune, USMC.

However, the records do show that "the Marine Flying Field, Miami, Florida, used by Marine Corps aviation in 1918-1919, was located on a barren spot west of the City of Miami on the site of the old Curtiss Flying Field. This field was west of what is now the Miami Canal, between N.W. 19th Terrace and N.W. 36th Street. The head-quarters building used by Marine Corps aviation is still standing just off the intersection of N.W. South River Drive

and 34th Avenue. The hangars were located near the old rock pit (now a pond of water), about two city blocks northeast of N.W. 25th Street."—Ed.



### STANDING FOR HYMN

Dear Sir:

I am the mother of Pfc Ronald L. Nickel, USMCR, who gave his life in Korea, October 17, 1951, while serving with the First Marine Division.

If he had come back and had been where the Marines' Hymn was played, he would have stood. We would like to know if it would be proper for my husband and me to do so in his place. I have so far, but was told it was not proper. I wonder if you would answer this for us.

I owe a lot to *Leatherneck* for the information I received from my letter to "Mail Call."

We are very proud of the Marine Corps.

Mrs. Louis J. Nickel 1552 E. Troy Ave.,

Indianapolis, Ind.

• While no specific regulations govern, it is customary and traditional that all those who belong to the Marine Corps, (and you most certainly do) and those who wish to pay their respects to the Corps and for all it represents will stand when the Marines' Hymn is played.—Ed.

### KHAKI SOCKS

Dear Sir:

Recently I have had several heated arguments as to whether the Marine Corps ever issued khaki-colored dress socks. I went through Parris Island, S. C., in 1953, and was issued three pairs of same. But all of my seniors claim I purchased them at a Post Exchange and I have almost gotten into trouble over them. Would you please verify my statement?

Corp. George Mrosko Com. Phib, Gru FOUR, N.S.N.A.B.,

Little Creek, Va.

◆ The Marine Corps did issue khakicolored socks at one time, and it is possible that you received an issue at boot camp.—Ed.





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One of the greatest thrills in NavCad training—the first solo



# wings for



Cadets do no flying in their 15 weeks of Pre-flight training. Physical conditioning, academic subjects

and military training under Marine DIs, such as SSgt. H. Banaszek, prepare them for commissions

by TSgt. Allen G. Mainard Leatherneck Staff Writer Photos by SSgt. Woodrow W. Neel Leatherneck Staff Photographer

ERGEANT EVAN THOMAS
was a machine gunner with
Fox Two Seven in the
Chosin Reservoir; Pfc David Scofield
was a range coach at Parris Island.
Corporal J. B. Parker was a tower
operator at MCAS, Miami; Corporal

Charles W. Krause was a communicator with the Third Division. Until recently they were just regular Marines with the usual backgrounds and jobs. They were high school graduates, one or two even had several semesters of college. Now they are learning to fly as Naval Avia-

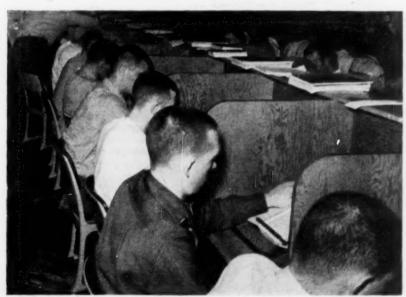
tion Cadets, well on their way to "Navy Wings of Gold" and commissions as Second Lieutenants.

After 18 months of flight training they will receive their wings and orders to a Marine squadron. They are typical of the many former enlisted Marines in training at Pensacola, Florida—the "Annapolis of the Air." Typical, also, of the Marines who left the ranks for wings and bars in the past. They make good pilots—their instructors say they make better than average officers. They are motivated, as the book calls it, and to each of them, flying is everything.

The Marine Corps wants more enlisted Marines to take advantage of the Naval Aviation Cadet program. Of the 3300 new pilots trained by the Navy last year, approximately one-fourth came into the Marine Corps. At present there are some 120 former enlisted Marines in training at Pensacola. Ac-

# Commissions as second lieutenants and Navy Wings of Gold are waiting for former enlisted Marines who can earn them

## Marines



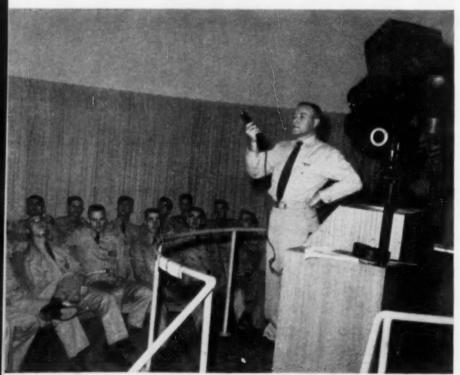
Training begins even before the new cadets receive their uniforms. The study skills course increases reading speed and comprehension

cording to law, 20 percent of all pilots trained by the Navy can come from the enlisted ranks of the Navy and Marine Corps. The requirements are strict; the 18-month training period is hard and demanding, but the rewards are great. Former Marines have first choice of the commissions open in the Corps—which are at a premium since a good third of the NavCads request them. Marine pilots go to fighter and attack squadrons and helicopter units. And, the starting salary for a Marine





NavCads receive their military training from veteran Marine NCOs. The Manual of the Sword is one of the many things they must learn



Schooling in navigation continues throughout the 18-month course of training. This device helps teach the NavCad celestial navigation

aviator is slightly more than \$5000 a year, a fair-sized jump from the pay of an enlisted man.

That salary isn't immediately forthcoming. For a cadet, the salary is \$111 a month until he actually begins flying; then he receives \$50 a month extra for hazardous duty. Corporals and above have to take an immediate pay cut. It takes from 14 to 18 months to turn out a Naval Aviator. The program has been kept deliberately flexible in order that individuals with exceptional ability can complete their training in less than 18 months. There are no shortcuts. however; no slipshod methods. Demerits are handed out in all phases of training for infractions of regulations or safety rules. Seventy-five demerits in Pre-flight will wash a man out: 65 will drop a man in Primary and Basic. Once out, a man cannot reenter the program.

Safety is stressed to almost unbelievable lengths. Every precaution is taken to safeguard the cadet. It costs the American taxpayer a good deal of money to train a Naval aviator. Consequently, no effort is spared to keep the investment safe.

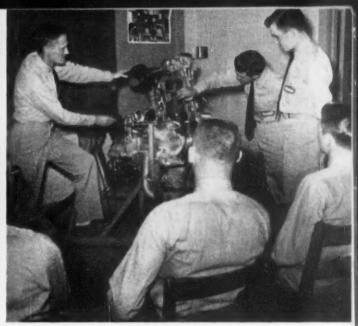
When an enlisted Marine is accepted for NavCad training, he is transferred to Marine Barracks, Pensacola, for discharge. The day after his discharge he signs his NavCad contract which obligates him for four years of service, dating from the day he becomes a cadet. Should he be dropped from the program, he can reenlist immediately in the Marine Corps in the same grade and his old date of rank.

The first phase of training is Preflight. For 15 weeks he again becomes a boot. The NavCad, college students and former enlisted men, get a thorough background in the subject essential to flight training. It also equips the NavCad to carry out his duties as an officer. There are three basic departments in Pre-flight training: Academic, Physical Fitness—Survival and Military. Marines handle all military training. There is divided opinion as to the ruggedness





Physical training includes boxing. Each NavCad spars a specified number of rounds in Pre-flight



Lieut. D. Wedlund, USN, taught former Marines J. LaBruzzo and J. D. Charles in engine function



of the military portion—former Marines consider it a snap. Academics consist of studies in navigation, aerology, engines, principles of flight. Naval orientation and study skills. The navigation ranining continues throughout the entire 18 months. Usually the words navigation and aerology imply that knowledge of trig, calculus and other high math is necessary. Nothing is further from the truth. The math and geometry studied in high school are adequate. The rest is up to the cadet. Study and concentration are required—not genius.

Corporal, now NavCad Charles Krause, recently completed his Pre-flight training and is now in Primary. Krause was a communicator with the Third Division in Japan. His mother is widowed; he has three brothers. He completed high school—no college; he is typical.

"It's not impossible, but you really have to work," he stated emphatically.

There is never an easy way, but Krause found that the former enlisted Marine is not at a disadvantage. His military background gives him a slight edge over NavCads who must learn the military as well as ground school subjects. Most former enlisted personnel become class officers in their training units.

Men who are not familiar with the habit of concentrated study find the course in study skills profitable. In simple terms, it helps the average cadet to increase his reading speed and comprehension. At the beginning of the course the average student reads 250 words a minute and retains approximately 73% of what he reads. By the end of the course he is reading 450 words a minute and can retain approxi-

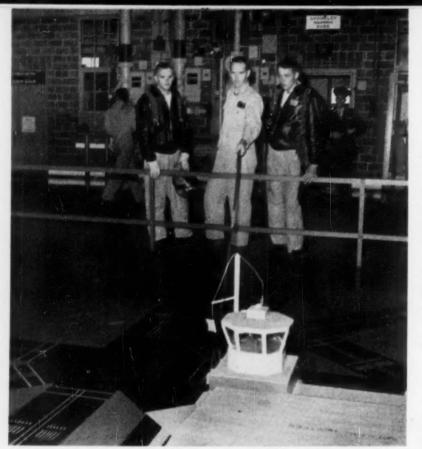
mately 78.3% of the material. Study skills is one of the courses designed to help the cadet generally throughout his training.

Other Pre-flight studies such as engines and aerology have a dual purpose—giving the student theory and the practical knowledge that may later save his life.

The Physical Fitness—Survival training is exactly what the name implies. The program keeps the cadets in shape through a carefully prepared series of exercises and supervised sports. All hands have a prescribed number of hours of boxing and team sports. Smokers between the battations in the Pre-flight regiment are held regularly. The survival training teaches the cadet how to ditch his aircraft in water; how to fend for himself if he's ever forced down in the arctic or the tropics.

There is a lighter side to the training—and it's all training. The Naval service has always been insistent that its officers be gentlemen. While there is no actual course in the social graces, a schedule of dances and weekend entertainment is maintained for the cadets. Free time for the cadets is limited to the weekends.

On the Marine Corps' 180th birthday, Michael D. Barnes (Corporal), and Bruce W. Driscoll (Sergeant), rounded up as many former Marines as they could find and planned their own celebration. The regular ceremony of reading the Commandant's Message, the history of the Marine Corps and cutting of the cake was carried out to the



These men were enlisted Marines. Don Hanna (left) and Robert Gingles (right) are cadets—1st Lieut. Ken Peck is an instructor

Beechcraft light civilian plane and is almost as easy to fly as the front porch rocking chair. And, as the cadet begins his actual flight training he gets his first raise—\$50 a month.

Before making his first solo flight, the cadet completes 19 training flights with his instructor. Usually there is one instructor for each three or four students. Ground school periods are scheduled so that each cadet can get the maximum benefit from both practice and theory. The first three phases, pre-solo, precision flight and acrobatics, teach the cadet the fundamentals of flying. Combat type flying does not begin until the student has completely mastered the fundamentals. After his solo the cadet completes 17 more flights, many of which are solo. These are precision flights. He practices basic airwork, but more exactness is demanded. From there he goes to acrobatics. He learns precision spins, loops, Immelmanns and rolls, all of which increase his ability and give him more confidence.

At the end of his 16 weeks of Primary training at Whiting or Corry, he has six weeks of formation, night, combat and cross country navigational flying. This is the beginning of his military flying. Formation flying and the tactics associated with each, start the team flying which is the backbone of Naval aviation.

### WINGS FOR MARINES (cont.)

letter. Nearly a hundred people attended the private celebration.

As the training progresses, men begin to drop out of the program. Some are dropped for physical reasons, some for lack of officer qualities. An average of one out of every four men who enter the program will be dropped. This is not a high attrition figure but compares with the attrition rate of colleges in America. Four percent drop out in Pre-flight. There are no attrition figures available for former enlisted Marines but it probably follows the same pattern.

Upon graduation from Pre-flight, the cadets are transferred to Whiting or Corry Fields. The majority begin their flying at Whiting. The primary aircraft are used, the SNJ "Texan" and the T-34 Beechcraft, for the cadets' first flights. As they progress they will move through the T-28—a trainer hotter than any WW II propeller-driven fighter—to the TV-2 and F9F Cougar jets. The T-34 is the military version of the



A high school graduate with no college, John Charles was a corporal with 27 months in the Corps when he qualified for the cadet program

After his stint at Saufly Feld, the NavCad is transferred to Barin Field in Foley, Alabama, for gunnery and carrier qualification. For the cadets, carrier qualification is a high spot.

"Until then," former Corporal David Soulen observed, "you haven't done anything an Air Force pilot can't do. When we hit the deck we feel we have accomplished something."

Before attempting the necessary six landings for carrier qualification, the cadet makes an average of 12 flights at Barin, using the section of runway rigged like a carrier's deck. They are taught the proper approach and maneuvers and are guided down by a Landing Signal Officer.

The final step in basic training is four weeks of instrument and night flying at Corry Field. Working in a hooded cockpit, the cadets must fly difficult patterns without being able to orient themselves with the ground or the horizon, relying completely on their instruments. This training and night flying prepares them for airways flying and radio navigation in later stages of training.

Corry Field is the last basic unit

where the cadets are trained. From there the majority of the cadets go on to the advanced training in jets at Corpus Christi, Texas or Memphis, Tennessee. A small percentage go to helicopter training at Elyson Field near Pensacola. Since most former enlisted Marines are trying for Regular commissions, many request helicopter training in order to meet the age limitations. To get a Regular commission, the pilots must earn their bars before their 25th birthday. As a result, some of the older NCOs request the shorter training phase in order to be eligible.

Helicopter training lasts eight weeks. Training is given in single and double-rotor crafts and, at the end of the training, the pilots are designated Naval Aviators and Second Lieutenants in the Reserve.

Jet training is the most popular program. Six advanced training units are maintained—one however, is the propdriven ADs. The five jet units use TV-2s and F9F Cougars. Cadets who go to Corpus Christi complete their training at that station and receive their wings. Since Memphis has no facilities for gunnery and bombing, the cadets assigned to that unit return to Forrest Sherman Field at Pensacola to ATU-206 to end their training.

Statistics prove that an exacting ground school program saves money and lives. As a result, the jet training phase has one of the most complete ground training departments of any course in the training command. Half of the student's day, after he begins flying, is taken up with ground school. After an average of 16 weeks in advanced training, the cadets complete the program and are assigned to either the Navy or Marine Corps. Of the 3300 pilots who received their wings last year, approximately one-fourth are now flying for the Marines.

Marines who took their training at Pensacola during WW II can point out many differences in today's program. There are more and better training aids and aircraft. Practically all the instructors are combat veterans and there are more cadet privileges.

The majority of the enlisted Marines who enter the program are high school graduates with little or no college. Even

TURN PAGE









A former Parris Island DI, Robert Gault (left) was given helicopter training by Major V. Olson



Capt, Ural Shadrick is a jet instructor. He was a Pfc at Quantico before entering flight training

### WINGS FOR MARINES (cont.)

so, these men have competed successfully with the college men coming into the program. Cadet training is no place for the lad with visions of the wild blue and wine, women and song. Eight basic requirements are necessary for qualification. The eighth listed is, "Be strongly motivated to fly." The cadets and instructors say they cannot emphasize this too strongly.

If you don't want to fly—Don't try.
If you do, these are the requirements:

I. Be a male citizen of the United States.

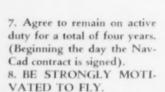
2. Be between 18 and 25 years of age. (In order to qualify for a regular commission, cadets must complete their training before their 25th birthday).

3. Be unmarried and agree to remain single during flight training.

4. Pass the flight aptitude test.

5. Pass a flight physical examination.

 Have two years of college or its equivalent. (The majority of former Marines in the program are high school graduates who have taken the equivalency exams).



BuPers Instruction 1120.20A lays out the requirements in detail. An applicant must have a GCT of 120, and a PA of 116. He "must be physically qualified and aeronautically adapted for the actual control of aircraft—no physical waivers will be granted."

It usually takes three months to process an application which has been submitted complete in all respects. The company office should have a copy of the BuPers instruction, and Marines interested in the program should study it carefully before applying. Since each applicant who completes the training will become a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve, only those who are considered officer material and who have the necessary physical qualifica-

tions will be considered. Actually it is not as difficult as it sounds. The majority of the Marine instructors come from the ranks into the NavCad program. Probably no other service can boast of so many officers who served as privates, corporals and sergeants as the Marine Corps.

A number of forms must be completed by each applicant. Since the program is continuous, application can be made at any time. If the forms are not properly completed it can delay transfer into the program.

These forms are required:

(1) An application for Nav-Cad training endorsed by the commanding officer (NavPers 953A).

(2) Naval Aviation Cadet Contract (Marines sign their contract the day following their discharge at Pensacola).

(3) If under 21 years of age,



consent of parents or guardian to undergo flight training and to serve for a continuous period of not more than four years unless sooner released by the Secretary of the Navy (This is Enclosure (1) of Bu-Pers Instruction 1120.20A).

(4) Educational transcripts of all college and secondary school work completed, including copies of USAFI test reports, if part of qualifications.

(5) Loyalty certificate form DD 98, 1 February 1954. (These forms can be ordered from district publications and printing offices).

(6) Basic Test Battery Scores.(7) Statement of Personal history (DD form 398) one copy.

(8) Agency Check request (This is a security clearance).

(9) Fingerprint card (OPN-AV 5510-2) with a clear and distinct set of prints.

(10) A certified copy of page 13 of the applicant's service record showing the following entry:

"In conjunction with application submitted for the Nav-Cad program the following forms are hereby certified to have been forwarded with the application this date:

(a) National Agency Check Request (Indicate which form used under BuPers Instruction 1120.20A).

(b) Statement of Personal History (DD Form 398.) (c) Fingerprint card (OP-NAV 5510-2). Marines who are selected for NavCad training should bring two things with them to Pensacola—enough money to meet all emergencies for a month and their uniforms. Since Marines must be discharged and then enter the NavCad program, it usually takes around a month to straighten out their pay accounts. They receive a full issue of clothing from the Navy, but since all the uniforms are fitted, several weeks are needed to prepare the issue.

Naval aviation practically began at Pensacola. The majority of Navy and Marine pilots who made history through the years learned to fly here. Veteran Naval officers command the two complex training commands. The Naval Air Basic Training Command. which includes the outlying fields at Pensacola, is under Captain Jack R. Munroe, USN. The overall Naval Air Training program which includes the advanced training units at Memphis. Tennessee and Corpus Christi, Texas, is headed by Vice Admiral A. K. Doyle, USN. Marines play an important part in each echelon of the training program. Colonel Harold J. Mitchener, is the Marine Corps Aviation Representative under Admiral Doyle. Lieutenant Colonel L. S. Reeve, assistant training officer for the Basic Training Command. is also senior member of the Marine selection board which picks the cadets who enter the Marine Corps.

From the time a man enters the program he will work with Marines. His military instructor will be a Marine. Chances are that a flight instructor in some phases of his training will be a Marine—probably a combat veteran. Others fill administrative billets, such as training officer, in the various units.

Colonel Reeve stated recently, "We are very proud of the records of the former enlisted Marines in the NavCad program." His sentiments are echoed by Navy as well as Marine Corps personnel concerned with their training. The former enlisted men are well motivated and as a whole, better understand the needs of the service.

Marine aviation is keeping pace with the other services. Marine pilots fly everything from the mach-busting, swept-wing jets to the evacuation helicopters. For enlisted Marines who can qualify, NavCad training is a skyway to better things. It's no picnic. It demands a man who wants to fly—above all—and who is willing to work hard to achieve that ambition.





CWO H. Overturf, USN, (Ret.) saw sons James and Charles rise from Pfcs to lieutenants



The 2nd Platoon, Barracks Detachment, sent 13 men over this 10-foot barrier in 35 seconds to win the

rugged wall-scaling event. The second place entry, MCI's 2nd Plt., needed an additional 6.8 seconds

# MILITARY TOURNEY

Friendly rivalry between the Marine Corps Institute and Marine Barracks
kept the competition hot on one of the year's coldest days

by TSgt. Paul C. Curtis Leatherneck Staff Writer Photos by TSgt. Charles B. Tyler Leatherneck Staff Photographer



machine gun and 60-mm. mortar drills, pitching shelter tents or making dry runs of the first aid carry relay. However, the advantages gained by the added practice may have been offset to some degree by the bone-chilling weather.

Seven platoons—three from the Marine Corps Institute, three from Barracks Detachment and one platoon of musicians from the Drum and Bugle Corps—and a squad of special duty men were entered in the contest. More than 350 sergeants and below competed while the staff NCOs and commissioned

officers were assigned as starters, time-keepers and judges.

Each man who placed in an event won points, not only for himself, but for his squad and platoon as well. Winning squads added to the point total of their parent platoons and trophies were awarded to the platoon, squad and individual with the highest number of points. On the basis of five points for first place, three for second and two for third, the 2d Platoon of the Marine Corps Institute Detachment piled up a total of 34 points to take top spot in the meet. Corporal Robert J.

TURN PAGE

ORPORAL GEORGE E Peckinpaugh can tear down and reassemble the M-1 in a flat 50 seconds with his eyes covered and his hands numbed by cold. Corporal Griffith W. Blakeslee can climb a vertical rope 15 feet high, and then monkey-walk across a 90-foot span of 8th and Eye's famed parade ground in a brisk 30 seconds. Both of these times were fast enough to take first places in two of the 18 events which made up the program of the First Annual Military Field Meet held by the Marine Barracks, 8th and Eye Streets, Washington, D. C.

Other posts can schedule their field meets and intramural competitions for the warm Spring or Summer months but the Corps' "spit and polish" troops must put off extra-curricular activities until ceremonial duties have slackened. This year several late season engagements forced the postponement of their military field meet and it was not held until the last Tuesday in November—one of last year's coldest days in the District of Columbia.

Despite the temperature—which hovered around the 16-degree mark, and a penetrating wind which blew continuously from the nearby Potomac River, the parade troops of 8th and Eye indicated that they have as much stamina and proficiency in military skills as their Fleet Marine Force brothers. They tackled the strenuous rope walking and rugged wall scaling contest with a verve, equaled perhaps, but certainly not surpassed anywhere in the Corps.

The necessary postponements of the events may have added a measure of skill to the performances of the entrants. For two months preceding the meet, squads could be found in off-duty hours running through the light



The "best turned out Marine" award went to Pfc Raymond O. Koch. This title carries a great deal of prestige among 8th and Eye troops



At close order drill, snap and precision decided the winner

A team from the Barracks Detachment took first place in the first aid carry relay race. Marine Corps Institute contestants finished second



Private First Class Emanuel Bergman (center), of Marine Barracks Detachment, was one of the competitors in the hand grenade throw

### MILITARY TOURNEY (cont.)

Sevieri won 16 of those points to push his platoon out in front and capture the individual award for himself. The 2d Squad, 1st Platoon, Barracks Detachment, was nominated as the best squad with a 23-point total.

The first event of the day got under way when the starting gun sounded at 0900 hours and continued until more than an hour after colors. The two final events—pitching shelter tents and the pie eating contest—took place in a gloomy twilight. Three platoons were tied for first place going into the shelter tent pitching contest.

The title of "best turned out Marine" went to Pfc Raymond Koch, an MCI instructor. On this post where every man is expected to look a cut or two above the average in neatness and military bearing, the title carries a great deal of prestige. Each squad entered its trimmest candidate for the honor and it took two hours for the four judges to select Koch over the other 23 contestants. The smaller details of proper dress, such as the correct spacing of ribbons, a highly-polished chin strap and military creases in his shirt, helped to decide the winner. It was the first event of the day and it got the Marine Corps Institute off to a good start.

Following the judging for the "best turned out Marine," close order drill, volley firing and the O'Grady Drill were next in quick succession.

The natural rivalry between the Marine Corps Institute and the Barracks detachments acted as a spur to the contestants in nearly every event. Most events showed first one, and then the





The 1st Plt., Barracks Det., competed in the mortar event

other, grabbing off the winning or runner-up spot. When an MCI entrant won, a Barracks Detachment competitor was usually not far behind and vice versa. In the blindfolded field stripping and assembly of the .45-caliber pistol. Corporal P. E. Egell, of MCI, finished only one and a half seconds ahead of Pfc Karl B. Juneau, representing the Barracks Detachment. The winning time was a handy 32.5 seconds.

In the rugged wall scaling, it took the 2d Platoon, Barracks Detachment less than three seconds per man to charge 40 yards down field and climb the 10-foot barrier made of slippery oak logs. Thirty-five seconds from the starting whistle the last man of the 13-man team had hit the dirt on the far side of the wall. The second place MCI entry got its men over the obstacle in 41.8 seconds. They were slowed down when one of their men dropped a piece of equipment and had to turn back to pick it up.

Lieutenant Colonel Charles R. Widdecke, Commanding Officer of the Marine Corps Institute, had suggested holding the military field meet at 8th and Eye and during the competition, acted as the chief umpire. The 18event program was planned by Lieutenant Colonel Roy J. Batterton, Jr., Executive Officer at the Marine Barracks, with the assistance of Captain Robert N. Burhans, Barracks Detachment, and Captain T. Paul Riegert, from MCI. They detailed the meet with a view toward increasing the men's interest in basic military subjects. The long hours of off-duty practice, the excellence and speed of performances, and the enthusiasm displayed by the troops in their roles of contestants and spectators were evidence of success on this score.

A special vote of thanks went to Master Sergeant John C. Guy, Barracks food services chief, for keeping all hands well supplied with hot coffee and cocoa throughout the chill day.

It wasn't expected that the Marine Corps Institute would win the meet. The specialists (continued on page 70)



Ready . . . Aim . . . Fire! Precise volley firing is very important for burial details. A Drum and Bugle Corps squad won this event



Field stripping the M-I Rifle while blindfolded was made more difficult by the intense cold. The winning time was 50 seconds



Col. R. Williams, Marine Bks. C.O., gave silver cups to Corps. R. Sevieri and G. Cassanese, individual winners

# PACTURALISMS.

ISIBILITY WAS DOWN to 100 yards but not even the black night could hide the familiar sounds. In the pre-dawn darkness, rifle butts nicked the rails; cargo nets creaked and strained under the weight of gear laden men. Alongside the attack transports, amtrac pilots gunned the low throbbing engines of their LVTs to keep them alive.

Then, only minutes off its 4:30 a.m. assault time, the first wave broke the rendezvous circle and raced for the shoreline. The First Marine Division, veteran

# First Division Marines battled a wily "foe" who used every trick in the book

by TSgt. Robert A. Suhosky Leatherneck Staff Writer

Photos by

MSgt. H. B. Wells and Official USMC Photographers

of countless amphibious operations, was landing again, this time in a peacetime maneuver along the coast of Southern California.

The maneuver, officially designated as Pacific Training Exercise 56L, was a major Pacific Fleet operation with two big objectives:

To find out to what degree troops landed by helicopters could be resupplied and sustained solely by the choppers; and to test requirements brought on by the losses from atomic warfare.

Like all good shows—including fullscale amphibious maneuvers—Pactraex 56L had plot, script and stage. The area from San Diego to San Clemente and the adjacent waters of the Pacific ocean served as the theater. The script was the plan of battle.

The plot was a thick one. It was assumed that early in 1955, the United States and the Aggressor had come to a stalemate in the United Nations, resulting in an invasion of the North American continent and an undeclared war by the Aggressors. While the enemy landing in Florida was quickly routed, foreign troops poured ashore in lightly defended Lower California, Mexico. Delaying action by American forces finally halted the invaders by the middle of June along a front extending from the West Coast to Las Vegas, Nevada, and Phoenix, Arizona.



Pactraex 56L took over from there. The cast assembled for the operation included thousands of Marines, sailors, ships and planes. More than 100 Pacific Fleet ships ranging from aircraft carriers, cruisers and amphibious assault vessels to patrol craft and minesweepers, and supported by destroyers of the Canadian Navy, participated in the sea phases of the maneuver. Submarines haunted sorties from harbors and attacked convoys in an effort to squelch the amphibious landings. Nearly 21,000 Naval personnel, headed by Rear Admiral Irving T. Duke, the Amphibious Task Force Commander, manned the ships.

Senior command headquarters of the maneuver was Major General Merrill B. Twining's Eastern Pacific Marine Air-Ground Corps, with an approximate strength of 30,000 Marines within its principal components—the First Marine Division (Reinforced) and the Third Marine Aircraft Wing.

Major General Twining normally commands the First Marine Division but was elevated to the higher echelon for the maneuver. Command of the Division during the exercise went to Brigadier General Alan Shapley, Assistant Division Commander. Brigadier General Marion L. Dawson led the Third Wing.

An audience of high ranking Marine Corps officials who watched the progress of the maneuver with interest included Lieutenant Generals Christian F. Schilt, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps for Air, and William O. Brice, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific; Major General Edward W. Snedeker, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, Headquarters, Marine Corps, and Brigadier General Donald M. Weller, Chief of Staff of Marine Corps Schools.

Ashore, the Aggressors — Marines from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Antiaircraft Battalions at the Marine Corps Train

TURN PAGE



Marines from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd AAA Battalions at Twentynine Palms formed the Aggressor forces that met the First Marine Division assault



The Aggressors laid land mines in an attempt to slow the infantry's advance. The mines were powerful enough to blow out a truck tire



One scene that never changes in an amphibious landing—the intense activity around the transports that brought the troops for the assault

### PACTRAEX (cont.)

ing Center at Twentynine Palms—were waiting. In the months preceding the maneuver, they had shed their role of artillery men and had trained hard as infantrymen. It was a switch they accepted with enthusiasm, although one Pfc remarked, "I joined to fight with

the Corps. Already I'm fighting against it!"

For distinction in the field, the Aggressors were decked out in the camouflage suits of War II days and added wooden crests to their helmets.

The curtain went up on the latest Pactraex during the first week of November when the Landing Force began stuffing its implements of war into the yawning holds of the ships cluttering the harbor in San Diego. There was no more than the usual amount of chaos akin to loading with the possible exception of the day the Fifth Marines went aboard and a stocky sergeant in that regiment put up a squawk.

"Gimme another ship," he shouted, pointing to the hulking gray transport ahead of him, "I refuse to set foot on that bucket one more time!"

The ship, a trusty transport that has seen Marines go over her sides more times than anyone can recall, sailed with the Task Force on the seventh of November. The sergeant was aboard.

At sea the convoy spread to the horizon while the planes and destroyers of the Navy's anti-sub hunter-killer packs operated through the armada, looking for underwater weasels lurking and waiting. The following day, destroyers, cruisers and planes of the Third Wing bombarded San Clemente island.

Landing craft were lowered from their davits on Thursday as the Task Force hove to off Coronado's Silver Strand and the First Divvy pulled a practice landing according to the operation scheduled. It was also the 10th of November, the 180th birthday of the Marine Corps.

The first wave landed on the black morning of November 15—D-Day—was brought ashore by LVTs. The 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the Fifth Marines, commanded by Colonel James S. Blais, hit Green Beach in the San Onofre area while the 1st and 3rd Battalions of Colonel Spencer S. Berger's Seventh Regiment stormed Red, White and Blue beaches further south. The First Marines, under Colonel Robert C. McGlashan, remained in reserve.

Heavy winds kicked up a high surf on D-Day, with breakers cresting six feet at times. Marine veterans of other amphibious assaults fought their way to the beaches through waist-high water and conceded that the landing was one of the roughest they'd ever encountered, notwithstanding the lack of lethal enemy fire. While attacking forces were put ashore despite the treacherous surf, support elements were delayed until a subsequent calm set in.

Shortly after dawn, the 1st Battalion, Fifth, left the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Princeton aboard helicopters of Marine Air Group 36, in a vertical envelopment operation that carried them to the top of Margarita Peak, deep in Aggressor-held territory. The Marines were ferried to the commanding summit of the Camp Pendleton reservation in waves of 10 whirlybirds. Strategically, the move gave them the vantage of the high ground for observation and fire direction-if they could hold until the rest of the Fifth Marines gouged the enemy defenses and made contact with them.





As usual, the wind kicked up a heavy surf on D-Day. Despite six-foot breakers, the troops went through with their landing

Navy UDT men landed before attack and signaled when beaches were cleared

Highway 101, a main artery of the West Coast running parallel to the ocean along Pendleton's western boundary, was presumed to be a vital Aggressor supply route, but not for long. The assaulting troops quickly seized the road and severed the enemy's lifeline. But the battle was far from a cake-walk.

The Aggressors in Pactraex fought one of the hardest losing battles in maneuver warfare. While the landing force was gathering for embarkation, the enemy - who had established a Command Post on Horno summit on October 19-was loading its hand with wild cards. Whereas the usual mockwar procedure calls for a maneuver umpire to notify the attacking forces of an anti-tank ditch, and to wait three hours before advancing, this enemy dug the ditches, and hoped they were big enough to make the Marines call up proper engineering equipment to cross them. Trees were hauled across the countryside to build commendable roadblocks and the minefields of the Aggressors hid "store-bought" charges capable of blowing a tire. The latter caused the Aggressors concern when Camp Pendleton maintenance personnel tried to travel through the mined area unmindful of the war being waged.

The defenders probably received a left-handed compliment when a brush



The heavy surf couldn't stop the water-proofed M-48 tanks. They landed on schedule to support the troops cracking the enemy line



No efforts were spared to make the exercise realistic. Marines of the Seventh Regiment attacked from the

beaches through simulated artillery fire. Later, they ran into obstacles built by the resourceful Aggressors

### PACTRAEX (cont.)

fire scorched the Aliso Canyon area on D-plus-1. Major S. Shervais, the Aggressor commander, turned his troops from the fire-fights at hand to help fight the fire but the obstacles they had built kept their absence unknown from most of the oncoming Marines.

Major General Twining moved his headquarters ashore the second day of the war as the Marine infantry, supported by their own tanks, pierced the Aggressor defenses in a breakout from the beachhead.

One assaulting unit which suffered heavy casualties in the first two days of fighting, was replaced by the 3rd Battalion, First Marines, in an airlift which brought them from El Toro to the landing strip at Camp Pendleton in R5Ds. Transport pilots had to set down over the mountains ringing the field in careful "steps."

As the maneuver continued, prisoners were taken by both sides but perhaps the biggest haul was netted at El Centro, California, where alert ground crewmen of VMA-224 seized the pilots

of four Aggressor aircraft forced to land at the "friendly" field because of high winds. The fliers from VMF-314—the Aggressor air arm during the exercises—were promptly shuttled off to the intelligence office for interrogation while their airplanes were snidely decorated with whitewash.

Photojets from VMJ-3 filmed more than 36,000 prints for the Air-Ground intelligence section during the 85 sorties they flew — enough photographs to measure six miles if placed end to end.

In a vain attempt to thwart the oncoming Marines, the Aggressors cut loose with their big boom—an atomic bomb. The simulated A-bomb device exploded with the shattering noise of the real thing and puffed up a familiar mushroom cloud, although one somewhat smaller in size to the awesome spectacle some of the maneuver personnel had witnessed during the Desert Rock exercises.

While the "shot" looked authentic enough, however, the Marines were able to overcome it tactically.

Pockets of by-passed Aggressors were wiped up as the maneuver went into its third day. The First Marines were ordered ashore from their position in floating reserve and moved inland by motor convoy to relieve the Seventh Marines.

On D-plus-3, advancing elements of



Fast-moving Marine infantry ended the battle in three days



Pfcs J. F. Holmes, H. E. Uhruch, L. J. Palmieri and Corporal P. C. Trevino had to grab their chow between calls for fire missions

A simulated A-bomb was exploded to add more realism to the West Coast maneuvers



the Fifth Marines established contact with that regiment's copter-landed 1st Battalion atop Margarita Peak. During their isolation on the hill, the 1st Battalion had maintained its combat integrity against reported 10-to-1 odds.

By evening of D-plus-3—the fourth day ashore—the First Marine Division had wrested control of the Camp Pendleton area from the Aggressors and the United States held a jumping-off position for an all-out push against the enemy's principal bastion at San Diego.

Some of the Divvy elements had been involved in the land and sea phases of the maneuver for 18 days; some of the Aggressors were in the field even longer. All of them were tired and dirty—and ready for hot chow—when Major General Clayton C. Jerome, Commanding General, Air, FMF, Pacific, and Maneuver Director for Pactraex 56L, brought down the curtain and secured the operation after four days of boondocking.

"The training value of the exercise has surpassed expected goals because of the realistic attitude of all hands," Major General Jerome said when the maneuver was completed. Among the troops who fought the war from either side, there was only complete agreement with the general's statement.

Afterwards, a top level critique determined the value of the strategy and tactics of Pactraex 56L. While the outcome of that gathering was not published, the Marines who fought and won the mock-war were satisfied with the knowledge that what they had done once, they could do again, should the big "if" ever fall.



Sergeant Charles Straker kept a close watch on his Aggressor prisoners, Pfc. Pat Reyna and A. G. Razo



Pfc H. Frederick (left) reported to Lieut. Col. D. V. Anderson and Col. J. Gabbert at umpire headquarters

## Leatherneck Laffs by BESS



"Honey, I've asked you not to call me during working hours!"

Leatherneck Magazine



"I'd of sworn you said, 'Tuggit Rigik Magsch' instead of, 'Rahhgt Obrijk Magsch!'



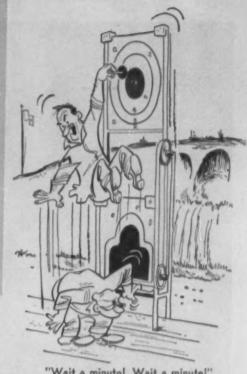
"How long have you had this fear of high places, Captain?"



"Crumleyl—are you listening to what I'm saying?"



"Sorenson here has come up with quite an idea!"



"Wait a minutel Wait a minutel"



"Yer other right, stu—I mean, my goodness lad, I do believe you have raised your left, rather than your right hand."





"I said everybody outside!"



"This one's called, 'Halt'!"





### MAJOR KOMORI'S AIRDROME

by Frank O. Hough

Illustrated by SSgt. Gordon C. Bess Leatherneck Staff Artist

AJOR Shinjiro Komori, Imperial Japanese Army, led his battalion into the trail junction village of Didmop December 15, 1943, in time to hear the naval gunfire and air bombing which supported the American assault landing on Cape Merkus, some 10 miles away. He was still there several days later, rounding up the routed survivors of the original Japanese garrison, when his radio brought in a disturbing American news broadcast.

His first reaction was bewilderment. He understood enough English to catch the gist of the announcement, and his adjutant, Lieutenant Tadeo Sato, who had a cousin in Brooklyn, amplified the translation. The invading U.S. troops, according to a news release by General MacArthur's headquarters, had captured the strategically important Arawe airdrome with all its installations.

What puzzled Komori was that he had never heard of any airdrome, strategic or otherwise, anywhere along New Britain's south coast, west of Gasmata.

He sent for Lieutenant Tsurujiu Fukushima of the 1st Provisional Company, 115th Infantry, who had commanded the small garrison prior to the U. S. landing. Fukushima grinned toothily. Yes, he thought he knew the area to which the broadcast referred. According to local natives, some Australian engineers had come there several years ago and hired them as laborers to clear and grade a certain kunai grass patch some four miles east of the American invaders' beachhead. Evidently they had intended this as an emergency landing strip on the air route between Port Moresby and Rabaul, and one light plane was re-

ported actually to have landed there successfully shortly before the war.

As for installations, there were none, and never had been. When the Australians evacuated New Britain, they had caused deep furrows to be plowed across the little cleared strip. Japanese engineers had pronounced it not worth salvaging, so it had been allowed to revert to kunai. As far as he, Fukushima, was concerned, that broadcast announcement was just another example of grandiloquent Yankee exaggeration.

Mulling over the matter, Komori was not sure. The Americans had done many seemingly peculiar things in the course of this war, most of which had made some sense in the long run. If they really did have plans for that one-time emergency landing strip, that would help to explain their invasion of this remote area, a move which, on the face of it, made no military sense at all. One thing, at least, was certain: if MacArthur's headquarters placed enough value on that beat-up kunai patch to boast of its seizure, clearly the immediate mission of the Japanese was to deny them its use. Komori determined to advance at once, without awaiting the arrival of promised reinforcements.

Finding the airdrome proved a bit difficult, but eventually they stumbled on it, drove in a couple of outposts and chased off a small reconaissance patrol a short distance beyond the disputed kunai patch. Thereupon, Komori directed Lieutenant Sato to draft a dispatch to higher headquarters announcing that the Komori Butai had recaptured the airdrome, occupied several native villages with impressively unpronounceable names, and driven the enemy back within the narrow confines of the original beachhead.

This dispatch traveled through channels to successively higher echelons of command; to General Matsuda's 65th Brigade in the Cape Gloucester region of northwestern New Britain, then via 17th Division to General Imamura's Eighth Area Army Headquarters at Rabaul

It lost nothing in transmission.

By late 1943 things had not been going well with the Sons of Heaven for quite a while, and national morale needed a shot in the arm. The airdrome incident suddenly became a very handy item. Tokyo announced to the world a brilliant and significant Japanese victory. Delighted by this news, the Emperor conferred the signal honor of an Imperial Commendation upon

the brave commander, and Shinjiro Komori found himself a national hero.

Encouraged by the ease with which all this had been accomplished, the new hero decided that the surest way to safeguard his precious airdrome would be to drive the invaders into the sea—the classic Japanese concept of annihilate-at-the-water's-edge, which had yet to work out in actual practice. So, on Christmas night he hurled his command, the 1st Battalion, 81st Infantry, against the American main line of resistance, strongly dug in across the narrow neck of the isthmus leading to Cape Merkus.

This attack, as Komori confided to his diary, "did not succeed." In fact, it did not succeed so decisively that the doughty major felt constrained to fall back and regroup at a respectful distance while awaiting the arrival of reinforcements he knew were on the way. The 1st Battalion, 141st Infantry, under Major Asayki Tobuse would be welcome, indeed.

On the American side of the troubled defense line, Brigadier General Julian W. Cunningham, commanding the U. S. 112th Cavalry Regimental Combat Team (dismounted), was puzzled by the news from Tokyo. He was quite unaware of having captured any airdrome, much less of having had the Japanese recapture it from him. Of course, he knew about the kunai patch one of his patrols had stumbled upon. But his orders said nothing about seizing any airdrome.

Yet, with the benefit of a little hindsight, it was not difficult to fathom what had occurred. Up to this point, U. S. conduct of the war had followed a well defined pattern; a series of assault landings to seize air facilities, or sites suitable for constructing them, from which further advances could be supported. MacArthur had done this along the northern coast of New Guinea, and the Marines at Guadalcanal, Tarawa and Bougainville; and it was being done now at Cape Gloucester, some scores of impassable miles away to the northwest on this same big island of New Britain.

Capture of an airdrome fell legitimately under the head of NEWS, however illegitimate the airdrome, and MacArthur's public relations people had fallen upon an obscure patrol report with glad cries. Civilian correspondents, in turn, accepted the release at face value, and with some relief, for they had been as puzzled as Major Komori in trying to make any sense out of this seemingly senseless operation. Thus was set in motion the curious chain of events that made Komori a national hero and ultimately led to his destruction.

Major Tobuse, a moon-faced young man with thick horn-rimmed glasses, reported to Komori on December 28. The officers decided that their most practicable course lay in simply containing the invaders within the narrow confines of the cape where the Japanese air force from Rabaul could pulverize them at leisure, in the same pretentiously brave show it had made during the early phases of the operation.

To effect this containment, they set about constructing a system of mutually supporting prepared positions on higher ground facing the American beachhead line at ranges of 600 to 700 yards, from which they could needle their opponents with automatic weapons, mortar and artillery fire, in what an American intelligence officer characterized as "harassing defensive tactics." How cleverly they recognized Japanese skill in such operations was described by General Cunningham in a report to Sixth Army, dated January 6, 1944:

"This is not an organized position in the accepted sense of the word, it consists apparently of shallow trenches and deep foxholes... The ground is covered with a thick green mat about 12 to 18 inches in depth which makes observation absolutely impossible.... Officers and men.. report that they have not seen a single Japanese and that they are unable to locate machine guns firing on them from a distance of 10 to 20 yards."

He retaliated to the Japanese harassment by plastering their positions with such a heavy and continuous volume of artillery fire that on January 9 Komori confessed to his diary that he was "getting a little annoyed with it."

General Cunningham, on his part, was getting more than a little annoyed with Komori. Orders defined his very limited mission: "Seize and defend a suitable location for the establishment of light naval facilities." In plain English, that meent a PT boat base-Cape Merkus and its off-lying waters, sheltered by the Arawe Islands. These he had secured the first day of the operation, and all he had to do now was defend them. General Kenney, commanding U.S. Army air in the Southwest Pacific area, had made it emphatically clear that the only airdrome on New Britain he considered worth having was that at Cape Gloucester, which had been assigned as a target for the First Marine Division.

Quite unaware that he was facing a "victorious" (by Imperial accolade) opponent, Cunningham was coming to regard the Japanese as nothing more than an unmitigated nuisance. When his artillery failed to drive them back beyond harassing range he mounted what he described as "three distinct sorties," which encountered only frustration before Komori's skillfully prepared positions. He reported to higher headquarters, " . . . the mission of driving the enemy out of position has not been accomplished and in my opinion cannot be accomplished by ground troops as now organized without prohibitive cost."

So in due time Radio Tokyo ecstatically announced that another major victory had once more saved the airdrome, and Komori received a second Imperial Commendation. And General Cunningham requested tanks, another battalion of infantry and additional air support for his next attempt.

What followed was recorded by Komori under date 16 January:

"Terrific shelling at 0600 hours. Attack followed. Heavy fighting. Tobuse Battalion fought well but sustained heavy casualties . . . Perhaps they have been annihilated. Enemy attacked persistently with several dozen tanks. Battalion gun smashed by mortar fire. Fired on by barges at sea. . . As things are, it would be difficult to carry out the detachment's mission."

That last sentence might take rank as a classic of understatement. Actually those "several dozen tanks" were 10 light ones borrowed from the First Marine Division, supported by a battalion of the 158th Infantry. By midafternoon they had overrun the last of the Japanese prepared positions. But when the Americans contented themselves with local mopping-up, Komori was able to withdraw his remnants in fairly good order. His enemy's indifference toward pushing the advance

far might well have served as a tipoff, but Komori discounted it smugly with, "I learned that withdrawing from the American Army is relatively easy."

He fell back on his kunai patch, determined, as he radioed higher head-quarters, to "fight to the glorious end to defend the airfield." To effect this noble resolve, he set all hands to digging two alternative systems of defensive positions in the immediate vicinity, a good four miles from the American perimeter.

So the situation appeared reasonably stabilized. General Cunningham and his people were permanently free from that nuisance harassment, Komori still clared from the time planning began, just as General Kenney had spoken about the airdrome; but, since he wore only three stripes instead of four stars, the high-level planners had paid him no mind. Officers and men alike began asking themselves why they had ever been sent to this godforsaken hole in the first place, and morale did not exactly improve.

Fighting deteriorated into a matter of rare patrol contacts and random skirmishing; of ambush and counterambush. About mid-February a strong U.S. combat patrol drove Major Tobuse's "defenders" clear off the "airdrome" to alternate positions 300 yards



had his precious airdrome, and everybody should have been happy. Unfortunately nobody was.

The Japanese were becoming sick and hungry. During the early phases of the operation, Rabaul had been able to supply Komori's force by boat and air-drop, but U.S. Naval and Air Forces had eventually put a stop to that. By the beginning of February, the garrison had become entirely dependent on the tortuous and very rugged cross-island trail to Iboki on the north coast for food and medical supplies, and for evacuation of the sick and wounded. The trickle arriving over this route was inadequate at best, and the logistical chores involved in distributing it required the services of many combat troops who should have been available to "fight to the glorious end to defend the airfield," To facilitate handling of this problem, Komori withdrew to the trail junction at Didmop accompanied by Lieutenant Sato and his faithful orderly, Corporal Isamu Kozuki, leaving immediate defense problems to Major Tobuse.

On the American side, bewilderment gave way to discontent as no PT boat base materialized on the site the task force had been at such pains to seize and defend. The naval officer in charge of such operations stated bluntly that the Navy needed a base on the New Britain south coast like it needed a hole in the head; that he had so de-

to the west, then simply turned around and went back home. So Komori reported still another decisive repulse and could conclude with all truthfulness: "The airfield is still in our hands."

Radio Tokyo took due cognizance, and the Emperor gave him yet a third Commendation.

But Komori could not ignore forever the pointedness of American indifference to his treasured kunai patch, and it began to dawn on him belatedly that his mission was assuming the aspects of large-scale shadow boxing. His next situation report reflected deepening gloom and closed with the statement.

"At present the airfield is covered with grass 4 to 5 (feet) high. The airfield, 200 m (sic) in width and 800 m in length, will be serviceable only for small airplanes. However, it will take quite some time to develop it. Consequently I believe that it will be of no great value."

By now he really wanted out, and three days later he hinted more broadly to that effect:

"As has been reported, the value of the Merkus airfield is so insignificant that it seems the enemy has no intention of using it . . . . It is my opinion that as the days pass, replenishment of supplies will become more and more difficult and fighting strength will be further diminished; our new line will be cut off and consequently leave us no alternative (continued on page 79)



Marine Barracks gate sentries have passed as many as 3280 Pensacola-bound vehicles through in less than

an hour without a single crumpled fender. The small detachment works a regular day-on, day-off schedule



TSgt. Allen G. Mainard Leatherneck Staff Writer

ers and the United States Navy. As a

result, the Navy spent that decade sup-

pressing pirates. And they took along

a few Marines.

HE TURMOIL OVER Napoleon and the disintegration of Spain's Caribbean colonial empire from 1812 through 1825 caused a number of shiftless gentlemen to embark on a series of precarious enterprises. In their freebooting search for loot and adventure, they mistakenly declared open season on American ships. This was viewed with a definite lack of enthusiasm by the ships' own-

Photos by SSgt. Woodrow W. Neel Leatherneck Staff Photographer

In 1821 the United States acquired Florida which had been a Spanish possession. Bases were established to support the American fleet, one of which was at Pensacola. On November 6, 1825, seven Marines from the frigate John Adams came ashore to guard the Navy Yard. The first officer to command the detachment was First Lieutenant Levi Twiggs, who was to die a hero years later while storming Chapultepec. The Marine Barracks is one of the oldest active posts in the Corps and is built on the site of the first settlement in the United States. It

## PENSACOLA

Marines have been on guard at Pensacola since 1825.

Among the many officers who commanded the Barracks

were First Lieut. Levi Twiggs and General John A. Lejeune

has been in continuous operation except for a short time during the War Between the States when it was in Confederate hands, and later in 1911, when it was closed for two years.

Thirty-six years after Columbus' discovery of the New World, Spanish colonists had pushed into the continent and built a base at Pensacola. It antedated St. Augustine by six years. Unfortunately a hurricane wiped out the Spanish fleet about that time and the town was abandoned. In 1696, Pensacola was reestablished and a fort was constructed nearby. Since then the city has had its ups and downs through various wars and under several flags.

Remnants of the first construction on the base remain. The brick wall surrounding the original 80-acre site still stands. So does the 12-foot wall built around the Naval Hospital in 1837. Learned medics of that day—plagued by Yellow Fever—were of the opinion that mosquitoes couldn't fly higher than eight feet. Unfortunately, the assumption was wrong and a plaque marks the common grave of the men who died in the epidemic of 1883.

The mosquito menace has long since passed but the buzzing remains. Pensacola has been the Annapolis of the Air since 1913 when the old Navy Yard was selected as the site for pilot training. Navy and Marine Corps pilots have been trained here for three wars.

Housed in one of the finest barracks buildings in the Corps, the 94-man detachment under Lieutenant Colonel B. W. McLean provides security for the Naval Air Station gates and brig. Col. McLean wears two hats in his present command, one as CO of Marine Barracks and the other as Security Officer for the Naval Air Basic Training Command. The colonel served as CO of the 3rd Battalion, Fifth Marines and Assistant G-2 for the First Marine Division in Korea. Prior to assuming command of the barracks, he was on the staff of the Naval War College at Newport, R. I.

The present barracks building was completed in 1939. In addition to the members of the Marine Barracks, it houses the Marine Aviation Detachment and Marine students of the Navy Photographic School. The building covers nearly a half block and contains the PX, a combined snack bar and slop-chute, a tailor and barber shop, mess hall and all recreational facilities.

For its size, the Exchange is probably one of the busiest and most prosperous in the Corps. Evidence of this is shown by the amount of gear available to the Marines for off-duty enjoyment. All new Naval Aviation Cadets get their initial PX issue here and the snack bar is one of the most popular meeting places on the station. The PX steward, Master Sergeant Herman O.



TSgt. J. Bullock and MSgt. R. Hall brief the new watch Martin, is one of three brothers serving in the Marines. His youngest brother, Joel, is one of the Barracks culinary experts. The remaining brother is overseas. The assistant steward is retired Staff Sergeant Jesse H. Hammett, whose two tours of duty at Pensacola add up to almost 11 years.

Profits from the Exchange give the men many extras not available at other stations. Free haircuts, free pressing and uniform alterations are among them. The Special Services fund benefits even more. The barracks boasts an excellent gym complete with all bodybuilding equipment—even a trampolin. The profits have also purchased a complete woodworking shop for the hobbyists. Fishing in the Pensacola area is as good as any in the world. The Marines have 12 outboard motors and several boats available for constant use. Staff Sergeant Oscar T. Reed, the Special Services NCO, says that fishing is the most popular pastime at the post and that the equipment on hand will handle anything from a minnow to a small whale. Salt and fresh water fishing are available throughout the area. In early December, two sergeants caught 25 sheepshead, averaging four pounds apiece, in less than two hours without leaving the base. What the Special Services storeroom lacks in fishing equipment and lures, can be found in the Exchange. The sports counter, which includes a well stocked gun shop, is the busiest in the Exchange.

Uniform alterations in the tailor shop are handled by Mary Jo Weiland-"Miss Jo" to Pensacola Marines for the last 23 years.

The size of the Marine Barracks crew is misleading in view of the work they do. There are nearly 1000 Marines in the area and each of them visits the barracks on business at least once during his stay. All enlisted Marines accepted for the NavCad program are discharged at the barracks. At present there are more than 700 student officers in training in the area.

First Lieutenant William T. Schumacher, a veteran of the Wake Island defense and several years in POW camp, is in charge of the supply section. His men average 33 shipments of household effects per month, each averaging 1000 pounds. Intra-city shipments averaging 10 each month, must be accompanied by a member of the section. Master Sergeant Norman W. Roff, the supply chief, says that in addition to the load of household effects handled, the other supply sections have an equally heavy volume.



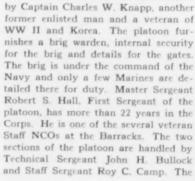
One of the duties of the Marine Barracks personnel is to furnish firing squads for burial details at the Pensacola National Cemetery

Most of the student officers make at least one purchase from the clothing section.

The Post Sergeant Major is another veteran. Sergeant Major Henry J. Stec, an infantryman, served with the Sixth Division in WW II and with the Seventh Marines in Korea. Major Charles S. Cummings, the Executive Officer, has served 28 years as an enlisted man and as an officer.

The Guard Platoon is commanded

sections pull duty on a day on, day off basis. There are only two entrances to the Main Side, as NAS, Pensacola, is called. The West Gate is a one man post and is open only during rush hours. The main gate is connected to the mainland by a bridge which means that rigid control of all traffic must be maintained. During a regular rush hour the sentries will handle 2000 cars.





Mrs. Jo Weiland has sewn stripes on many Marines like Sgt. R. Farough in 23 years Their record was 3280 cars in 50 minutes—through two lanes—after a station football game. MSgt. Hall said there were no crumpled fenders.

As in most small units, the chow is good at Pensacola. Technical Sergeant Fred E. Mullins, another long-time Marine, supervises the family-style mess. While the mess hall has fed upwards of 400 men at a meal when the Barracks was being used as a transient center, the average feeding now is just over 100. Sergeant Joel Martin, who was accustomed to feeding 1500 men per meal, doesn't complain about the loss of the 1400 customers.

The Marine Aviation Detachment. while not a part of the Marine Barracks, has its offices in the building. Under the command of two veteran pilots, Major Louis H. Steman and Captain Thomas B. Wadsworth, the Detachment is responsible for the records of more than 700 junior officers. Since the students are in different phases of training and move from field to field after a few weeks, keeping their records straight is a job. The Detachment also handles the records of Marine instructors in the area. The Sergeant Major, Master Sergeant George F. Cade, is another 22-year Marine. A distinguished rifleman and a former competitor in the National Matches at Camp Perry, the Sergeant Major has fired with many (continued on page 67)



Sgt. John R. Martin (center) goes for the basket during one of the Station's intramural games. The Marines won the first three tilts



TSgts. W. Wilson and H. Banaszek caught these 25 sheepshead without leaving the naval station



Marine Barracks CO, Lieut, Col. B. W. McLean, was the First Division's Assistant G-2 in Korea

# Gapital Reservists

Washington's Reserve units are

highly proficient and able.

They will be ready

if the need should arise



Exercise under arms started Drill Night activities for this platoon of the 13th Infantry Battalion. These

Capital Reservists meet at the Naval Gun Factory, oldest naval installation in the District of Columbia

by TSgt. Paul C. Curtis Leatherneck Staff Writer

Photos by TSgt. Charles B. Tyler Leatherneck Staff Photographer

HERE HAVE BEEN many changes in equipment and techniques of warfare since the late twenties when the old 401st Company of the Fleet Marine Reserve ended their Summer training with a two-day march from Quantico to the Maryland side of the District of Columbia

Progress has been overwhelming, too, since the day when Utility Squadron Seven of the Marine Air Reserve flew its bi-winged forerunners of faster-than-sound jet fighters from the newly-laid runways at the Anacostia Naval Air Station.

But the spirit and enthusiasm of the men who staffed those first Marine Corps Reserve units in the District of Columbia remains unchanged today in the reservists who fill the ranks of the 13th Infantry Battalion, Marine Air Control Squadron 24, VMF 321 and a host of Volunteer Training Units. All the units on a drill-pay status are either up to full strength or nearing that mark, and all have a high percentage of drill attendance and have reached a remarkable degree of proficiency. In addition. 10 Volunteer Training Units, with no limit to the number of men they can carry on the rolls, get an enthusiastic response from former Marines who want to keep abreast of developments in their military specialty.

The 13th Infantry Battalion was born of the success of the 5th Special Infantry Battalion which was organized in February, 1947; mobilized with some 400 officers and men in July, 1950; and reactivated on December 2, 1952, after the Korean War had slowed to the point where reservists were being released. Because the 5th Special's officers believed that an area as populated as the metropolitan District of Columbia could well support a larger organization, they requested a change in designation with an increase in T/O. In January, 1954, the 5th Special Infantry Battalion became the 13th Infantry Battalion with billets for 415 officers and men.

The 13th Infantry meets each Tuesday evening on the third deck of Building #218, of the Naval Gun Factory. Although the third deck was added to the building to provide a meeting place for the Marine reservists, the 13th has outgrown the facilities. Classrooms are



Lieut. Col. Ernest Codere, Commanding Officer of the 13th Inf. Bn., administered the oath of enlistment to these newcomers to the outfit

filled to overflowing every drill night. Sometimes the overflow is shuttled into classrooms assigned to the Navy reservists on the second deck but, more often than not, these rooms are not available. Marine instructors hold training sessions outside when the weather will permit.

Captain Manuel B. Viera, who heads the unit's four-man recruiting team, rates the inadequate training facilities more of a problem than getting men. "Finding an adequate training center in a suitable location is our number one project," he says. "Our present classrooms will accommodate about one-fourth of our T/O strength and our attendance at drill runs upwards of 75 percent. You can see how badly we need space."

Getting men has been comparatively easy for the 13th Infantry Battalion, the first unit of its size to build up to full T/O strength. However, it is necessary to carry on a continuous drive to keep new men flowing into the battalion. Every month, members of the

13th leave the outfit for regular duty—as many as 25 or 30 during the month following Summer camp. The Washington, D. C., population has a high percentage of transients and reservists are continually moving from the area. They, of course, are transferred to other Marine Reserve units but they represent a loss to the 13th, just the same. Capt, Viera, Technical Sergeant Vernon L. Ellison and Sergeant Robert E. Roof, all of the I-I staff, and Master Sergeant George C. Harris, a reservist, see to it the battalion never lacks men.

While the enlistment of former Marines and veterans of other branches of the Armed Forces is not left to chance, a special emphasis is placed on enlisting the non-veteran. High schools and colleges in Washington and nearby Maryland and Virginia are the principal sources of the non-veteran enlistees. The high school program of the 13th Infantry Battalion begins when school opens in the Fall and continues throughout the school year. The Marines give lectures and small arms dem-

TURN PAGE





At Camp Lejeune, the Washington reservists used a helicopter during their Summer training maneuvers



The Women Marines Disbursing Platoon studied pay procedures under the guidance of Lieut. G. Overholser

### CAPITAL RESERVISTS (cont.)

onstrations to the High School Cadet Corps, similar to the ROTC program for the college students. They also provide training aids for the regular instructors of these units and act as reviewing officers for their parades and ceremonies.

Little actual recruiting is done at any time but the interest created in the Marine Reserve results in a large number of enlistments from the High School Cadet Corps. This creates a minor problem when the Marines and the local high schools are both participating in civic ceremonies. The high school student with dual membership always wants to fall in with the Marines, leaving vacancies in the ranks of the Cadet Corps.

MSgt. Harris performs a special function on the recruiting team which is somewhat unique. His primary duties consist mainly in overcoming the objections of parents to the enlistment of their underage sons. With a background of Marine Corps service dating back to the early 1930s—and a boy of his own as yet too young to enlist—Harris is well qualified for the job. He understands the natural objections of a parent but realizes full well the advantages of getting the jump on military training.

An altitude reader was readied by MCAS-24 of Anacostia for a weekend of sky scanning Harris enlisted in Washington's 5th Battalion, of the Marine Corps Reserve, when the old 5th was using broomsticks in place of rifles for drill. He served with the Seventh Marine Regiment from Guadalcanal through Pelelieu and has been in Class III or Organized Reserve since he was released in 1946. In addition to the Corps, Harris loves kids and spends a lot of his spare time with them. During the Summer months he manages an American Legion baseball team and

works with two squads of Little Leaguers. He also puts in a lot of extra hours with a Cub Scout troop to which his son belongs.

The annual Toys for Tots drive is the highlight in the civic affairs department of the 13th. The "gravel crunchers" of the 13th cooperate with the air reservists of Anacostia on the campaign and together they collected more than 159,000 toys for underprivileged kids in 1954. The 1955 contributions promised to be even greater.



While not a part of the actual T/O, the Women's Disbursing Platoon forms an integral part of the 13th Infantry. The men are very proud of the 52 young women who form the platoon, and the girls are justly proud of their organization. Training in their specialty of making up payrolls and keeping monetary accounts is often dry and monotonous but they go at it with

talion in Philadelphia and later the Executive Officer of the same kind of unit in Providence, Rhode Island.

"No Reserve unit is a success on the strength of the reservists alone, or on the strength of the I-I staff alone," the colonel stated. "It takes a meeting of the minds on the part of the Inspector-Instructor and the unit's officers, and a terrific capacity for work on the part

of the staffs of each. We have been blessed that both these factors are present in the 13th."

At the Anacostia Naval Air Station, just a stone's throw from the Naval Gun Factory, the Marine Air Reserve Training Detachment meets on the last weekend of each month. The Detachment is composed of Marine Air Control Squadron 24 and VMF 321, a fighter squadron dubbed the "Hell's Angels" during World War II. Lieutenant Colonel John P. Sigman, a Marine flyer since January, 1942, is the Commanding Officer of the Detachment. Col. Sigman flew the old Grumman Wildcats from Henderson Field during the Guadalcanal Campaign in the distinguished company of Medal of Honor winners Colonel John L. Smith and South Dakota's Governor, Joe Foss.

Marine Air Control Squadron 24 is one of 12 Air control squadrons in the Marine Corps Air Reserve program. Strung out along each coast and at strategic interior locations, they work closely with the Continental Air Defense Command and form an important link in the nation's air warning system. But their main purpose is to control and direct interceptor aircraft and MACS-24 teams up with VMF-321 to train for this mission.

Marine Air Control Squadron 24 has been a "family type" unit since it was organized on October 15, 1949. Its first Com- (continued on page 78)



Neophyte aircraft mechanics are thoroughly checked out by veterans of World War II and Korea. VMF-321 flies the Douglas Skyraider

spirit and determination. To keep interest in the platoon at a high pitch, the girls enter athletic competition under the platoon banner. They won the District of Columbia's Class "D" Softball Championship for 1955 and were runners-up in the Class "B" recreation tournament. Pfc Dorothy Shepherd pitched the girls to their high place in the standings. In addition, their pistol team won the Marine Corps Reserve's Women's Gallery Regional Championship in 1955, and their rifle team placed second in the Eastern Division meet.

Lieutenant Colonel Ernest C. Codere, Commanding Officer of the 13th Battalion since its inception in 1952, has been with the Organized Reserve since its activation following World War II. His civilian job with an insurance company has kept him on the move since he was released to inactive duty in 1946. He had been connected with two Organized Reserve units before taking over as C. O. of the 13th. He was the S-3 with the 155-mm. Howitzer Bat-



Judging unit newspapers for the Division of Reserve's annual award is one project for Col. W. H. Randolph's PIO Volunteer Training Unit

### If I Were Commandant

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Checks for \$25.00 have been mailed to the writers of the letters which appear on these pages. Leatherneck will continue to print—and pay for—ideas expressed by readers who have sincere constructive suggestions for a better Corps. If you were Commandant, what would you do? Your answer may bring you a check. Jot down your suggestions in less than 200 words and mail them to Leatherneck, P. O. Box 1918, Washington 13, D. C.



Dear Sir:

If I were Commandant, I would make certain changes in our present system of promotions.

Each individual would be required to complete a specified correspondence course in military subjects as well as specialty fields. After completing correspondence courses, a practical demonstration of ability would be required in addition to a written examination.

Correspondence courses in military subjects could be handled by Marine Corps Schools and specialty fields by the Marine Corps Institute. The big change here is that the courses would become compulsory for promotion rather than optional.

Practical demonstrations could be devised in military subjects as well as specialty fields.

All manuals would become the property of the individual and all questions and demonstrations would be valued at 25 percent each toward promotion.

Final examination for promotion, valued at 50 percent, would be handled as under the present system with the addition of a practical factor, standards of which would be set by Headquarters.

Before tests are administered, lists would be published informing all Marines of the number of men in each grade and MOS field to be promoted.

Those who fail to earn promotion immediately would be required to take the final examination again during the next testing period with the elimination of the correspondence courses.

Periodic re-evaluation of correspondence courses would insure incorporation of latest developments reaching into every rank.

Louis F. Nadolny TSgt. 353379

Dear Sir:

If I were Commandant, I would instigate a system whereby the confinement and time lost by Marine Corps personnel would be greatly reduced. As noted in a recent Marine Corps article, it required a greater number of personnel to watch over the prisoners than the number actually confined.

I would propose that commanding officers, when dealing with a minor offense, (minor offenses would be defined) award the man concerned mess duty instead of confinement. The man then would be contributing to the mission of the Corps rather than hindering it.

Jack L. Wooldridge Corp. 1325183

Dear Sir:

If I were Commandant of the Marine Corps, I would abolish the use of metal vehicle tags for privately-owned motor vehicles operating on Government Reservations and adopt the system presently in use by some installations of the U. S. Navy. Their system involves the attaching of a decal to the inside of the front windshield.

It is believed that the decal system would save a considerable amount of money in the buying process alone—not to mention the man hours saved for the proper maintenance of the metal tags in addition to the administrative time involved.

It is further believed that the decal system would present a much neater appearance. Most of the late model cars are manufactured to hold one tag—state license plates—without space for additional tags and consequently motorists are securing their metal tags to vehicles in every fashion possible which causes an unruly appearance and excessive damage to the

Moreover, if I were Commandant, I would devise a system wherein a decal could be issued from Head-quarters Marine Corps with a permanent number to all officers and staff noncommissioned officers. Then upon detachment of an officer or transfer of a staff noncommissioned officer his name could be removed from the files of the provost marshal. And upon reporting to his new duty station it would only be necessary to register his number with the provost marshal.

It is also believed that this system would further raise the prestige for officers and staff noncommissioned officers of the United States Marine Corps.

Vance L. Elsmore TSgt. 645839

Dear Sir:

If I were Commandant, I would make some change in the present standard rifle range requalification procedures.

I would make the course a twoweek-long snapping in and firing period. That is, I would have the first week set aside for snapping in and the various lectures on sight adjustments, etc. The second week, instead of the usual practice courses there would be one day of "zeroing in" of the weapons. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday would be an actual qualification period, taking the average score of these days as the final recorded qualification. If, for instance, a Marine fired 210, 220, 227, 214 consecutively on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, his average score would be 217.75 or 218.

This system would benefit those Marines who are actually good shooters, but perhaps just had a bad day for some reason on record day. This would also eliminate the wasted rounds fired with the "I don't give a darn, this doesn't count anyway" attitude as every round fired goes into making one final average. It would be a vast improvement on Service Record Books and benefit the Marine Corps as a whole by making better shooters.

Thomas F. Bolger, Jr. Corp. 1366526

Dear Sir:

If I were Commandant, I would urge a more active participation by Staff NCOs in the Officer's Basic and Junior Extension Courses available through the Extension School, Marine Corps Educational Center, Quantico.

As an incentive for Staff NCOs to enroll and successfully complete a course, I would modify the present order governing training in basic subjects to allow, in addition to designated Sergeants Major, all Staff NCOs who have successfully completed the Basic Officer's Extension Course to be excused from attending classes in the training program for each sub-course as it is completed. This could easily be accomplished by submitting completed lessons through the unit training officer and receiving scored answer sheets and study material from the same individual. In this manner a record could be kept of the Staff NCO's progress and could be included in his service record on transfer. Also, the Extension School could offer former enrollees who have completed a course, the opportunity to take new sub-courses as they are added or retake old ones when major modifications are made. Announcements of new and modified sub-courses could be announced through Marine Corps Information Bulletins or by establishment of an Extension School Bulletin.

It is my belief that a program of this type would create more interest on the part of Staff NCOs to avail themselves of the excellent courses in basic and advanced military subjects which may be had for the asking. Further, voluntary study on the part of the Staff NCO is of much more value to himself and to the Marine Corps than compulsory attendance at an organizational school where the quality and continuity of instruction may well be questioned at times.

Elbert L. Cassell MSgt. 829769

Dear Sir:

If I were Commandant, I would salvage the highly experienced manpower that the Marine Corps loses every year.

When an enlisted man passes the 20-year mark he is usually ready to settle down in one place and open a small bar or raise chickens, and so he transfers to the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve. With this transfer the Corps is the loser.

The billets at the majority of Reserve Battalions and Companies, and recruiting could be very well filled by these same men. The Corps could then send the younger men to the Fleet Marine Force and other places where regulars are needed.

The older man, in most instances, would be given a billet in or near the town where he intended to make his permanent home, and so would stay on continuous active duty as a reservist for a number of years.

On the financial end, when a man transfers to the Fleet Reserve the Corps has to pay him his retainer pay and does not get any work in return. But if the Fleet Reservist were given a recruiting or Organized Reserve billet, the Corps would get a day's work for a day's pay.

I do not mean that all the "have beens" should be given these jobs, but rather, these billets should be given as a reward to those outstanding NCOs who have faithfully and diligently performed their duties for 20 years.

> Donald J. O'Neill MSgt. 266902 END

## The Old Gunny Says...

OU'VE ALL been reading in the papers about the concern for the physical fitness of America's youth. Now, this is an important National problem that everyone should do something about. It's a particularly important problem to the Armed Forces and especially to a hard charging fightin' outfit like the Corps. Our reputation and readiness are based upon always being fit to fight. Like other aspects of readiness and fitness, just talking about being physically fit ain't enough. We gotta work at it now and always.

"You can look around you and see that we got plenty of room for improvement in the physical fitness of Marines of all ranks. You can see the ones that are too fat. It looks to me like young men today are getting broad in the beam. They don't walk enough. Many of our boots and our officer candidates are soft and have undeveloped muscles. Young boys today don't seem to go in for the hard muscle building chores and games that their forefathers did. We don't develop the tough feet and strong leg muscles men had when they walked more. I was noticing the young Marines around the swimmin' pool this past Summer; a lotta them just don't have any muscles. They look soft.

"Some of you may be sayin," 'So what? We got wheels nowadays." Well, let me clue you! There's never been a war where the fighting 'ground-pounders' didn't do a lotta walkin' and where most everyone had to be hard and fit to do the job. No matter if you lug a BAR around, work in a supply dump or wallop pots in a field galley, you need muscles. The Corps still needs hard men—and always will!

"As I see it, today we got two physical fitness problems in the Corps. We gotta take new Marines and build their muscles and we gotta keep the old Marines fit.

"For the young men we need muscle building programs with obstacle courses, log and weight exercises, running, long hard marches, including speed marches, and field work with full combat gear. We should develop all muscles but work especially on the feet, legs and lungs. Diets should be high in proteins with less fats. Ample sleep and moderation in smoking and drinking should be encouraged.



"Then, throughout his career, the Marine should be encouraged, aided and expected to keep fit. Fat, soft military men are of little value in the field. They rarely stand up well under the stress of battle. A career Marine's physical fitness should always be as important as his professional fitness. To keep ourselves fit for field service calls for more than just a few days of organized recreation.

"Each man should watch his weight continually and purposefully. The only good way to lose weight is to eat less. Our messes would help if they served less starchy and fattening foods. Our clubs should have some light meals for men reducing their belt lines.

"Work loads in the staffs and offices—and unit schedules—should allow time for all hands to get out and exercise. People in office jobs will rarely get sufficient exercise after working hours. Time for exercise is a real problem for many married Marines.

"Our organized athletics should involve the participation of more men. Spectator sports are of little value other than entertainment. Watching a few athletes perform develops nothing but your sitting muscles. You all gotta get outdoors and exercise.

"Well, what can we do to keep our physical standards up? First, get time for regular outdoor exercise. Next, promote forms of exercise that develop the muscles we need for field combat service. Marching and running will answer much of our needs. Units should practice speed marching by roads and across country. Rates of four and five miles per hour should be attained.

"We'll soon find, as a result of vigorous physical training, that units made up of hard muscled men who have accomplished difficult feats of cross country marches, forced marches, men who can easily handle the heavy weights of combat weapons, munitions and supply-without undue fatigue, those units will have high morale. Physical fitness is the keystone of individual readiness and unit combat morale. Men and units who are lean, tough and in top physical shape will have confidence in themselves and they will stand up under the strains of battle. The old saying, 'survival of the fittest' especially applies to combat outfits like the Marine Corps." END

# This but to print in part the t

Leatherneck is proud to print in part the tribute paid to Marine Corps Correspondents which was read by John Wayne on the recent Dateline II TV presentation.

I am grateful to the men and women of the overseas press For keeping me informed of my country's place in the world abroad-For bringing me the truth . . . I don't know all the great overseas reporters, But I'd like to talk about a group of them I am familiar with-the United States Marine Combat correspondents. The one hundred seventy-five men of arms and words who reported the Pacific warfor me and for the mothers and fathers and sisters and brothers of the comrades they lived and perished with. Their accounts are yellow and fragile in scrap books across the land today-But the memory of what they did is new And alive as a green boot of last week. Each of these men was a soldier first and a reporter next. He was trained in arms like any other Marine And when he walked on a battlefield Or snaked through a jungle, or slid on his belly through a surf to a fearful sand. You could tell who he was By the typewriter he carried in his right handand the rifle he carried in his left . . . But the record books say that no dispatch in battle was ever written more than a hundred yards from the line. If there was news in the field, they wrote home about it-From the Solomons to the hot rock that was Iwo Jima-And to the far, far side of Okinawa - -And later to Pusan, Inchon, the Chosin Reservoir These correspondents hit the beach with the troops and always walked in footsteps still warm from the tread of heroes . . . These men somehow found words that were literature . . . I'd like to quote from one such dispatch. These are the words of Master Technical Sergeant Gene Ward: "After church services," he wrote, "I walked alone down the winding road toward Red Beach One.

There in a quiet glade the chaplains

had laid out a Marine Division cemetery.

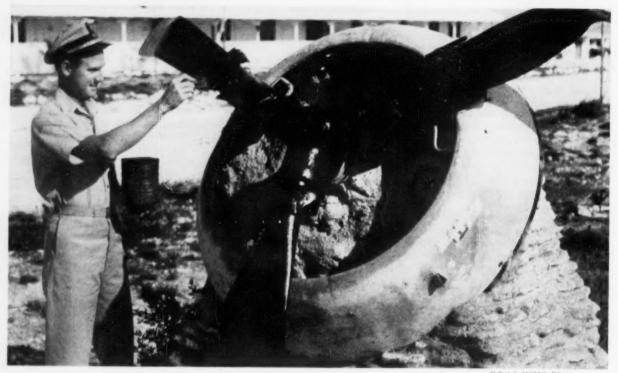


as if bent in a celestial canopy. Here is a small stream at the top of a tropical glade, reminding me, somehow, of the Little Beaverkillat the bend where we used to get those rainbows. I walked between the white crosses-Straight in their long lines and evenly spaced. The paint was fresh and whitethe names plain-lettered. Here a major, there a private-All quietly resting . . . Names I knew and their faces come swarming back into memory. They were men I fought withyet I don't feel sorrow. Rather, I miss their way of kidding. Or of smiling, Or the phrases and inflections they used to gripe about the chow. But I don't feel sorry for them. Not here. For a man dies and that's that, If I die, here is where I would want to be-With the others, the men I fought with. In dying, these men-These friends of mine-Made this bit of soil forever American. They are in no strange land. They are in no strange grave. As I look out over this quiet burial place and down the broad vistas of the island hills to the sea. I wish that those who loved these dead could know this placecould know amid what tranquility their sons have found their final resting places," That was a story about Marines By a Marine Combat Correspondent A member of the press

Who traveled overseas for me,

### We-the Marines

Edited by TSgt. Paul C. Curtis



The battered cowling and bent propeller blades of a plane shot down in the defense of Wake Island

made a fitting memorial to the Marine defenders. Lieut. M. Phillips, USCG, erected the monument

### A Monument on Wake

Marine defenders of Wake Island finally have a monument on the horseshoe shaped island where they fought so gallantly. It was built by Coast Guard Lieutenant (jg) Marshall K. Phillips, in charge of the navigational aid Loran station located on the tiny coral and lava rock.

When Lieutenant Phillips first went to Wake Island, he noticed that the island had two monuments dedicated to its Japanese conquerors but none to its Marine defenders. He was searching for shells one day and came across the wreckage of an F4F Grumman Wildcat, shot down in defense of the tiny bastion. The battered cowling and bent propeller blades were used by Lieut. Phillips to construct a memorial to the Marines.

Later investigation revealed that the wreckage was from the plane flown by Marine Captain Henry T. Elrod, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.

A plaque at the foot of the memorial reads simply: "Dedicated humbly to Capt. Henry T. Elrod and the gallant defenders of Wake Island."

> Informational Services Office MCAS, El Toro

### Bull's Eyes With a BAR

Private First Class Richard B. Purdy, of the First Marine Division, probably set a Marine Corps record with the Browning Automatic Rifle when he fired a sizzling 247x250. Headquarters, Marine Corps reports no record of any shooter equaling Purdy's sensational score.

Going into the 500-yard line with a perfect mark, Purdy dropped two points with the first round. The entire firing line stopped shooting to see whether he would "get shook" or maintain his icy calm. His second shot was

a bull and the whole line relaxed.

Purdy completed his slow fire with
a four and two more fives and then
fired a perfect string of rapid fire.

Shooters on the line that day regarded the record breaking score with added respect because of the weather. The wind was blowing in gusts up to 25 knots per hour, with no dependable pattern. More than one sharpshooter and expert finished the course by barely qualifying.

The BAR is fired from the 200-, 300-, and 500-yard lines in rapid and slow fire. Rapid fire is delivered in single rounds or short bursts. This was the first time that Purdy had fired the BAR for record.

Informational Services Office First Marine Division, Campen

### A Trip to Disneyland

Master Sergeant William C. Hoyt, Jr., a helicopter pilot at MCAS, El Toro, was recently selected as "Marine of the Month." As a result, a dream of several thousand American youngsters came true for Hoyt's six children. The sergeant and his family spent an entire day at fabulous Disneyland as guests of the management.

During their tour of make-believe land, the Hoyts visited Main Street, U. S. A.—described by Walt Disney, its creator, as the "Heartline of America." They peered into the future on their stop at Tomorrowland and took a rocket ship "ride to the moon." Although they failed to find their idol, Davy Crockett, in Frontierland, they did see pistol totin' cowboys; talked



Official USMC Photo

Private First Class Richard B. Purdy fired a record 247x250 with the Browning Automatic Rifle on a windy day at Camp Pendleton

to a real, live Indian; and had a tall glass of soda pop at the bar of the Golden Horseshoe, a replica of an Old West saloon.

The family boarded a 105-foot paddle-wheeled steamboat for a ride on the "rivers of America" and took an explorer's boat trip on the "tropical rivers of the world." They walked through medieval castles and rode horse-drawn streetcars and stage-coaches.

The Hoyts began the day with an early morning visit to Sleeping Beauty's Castle and ended their tour only when the entertainment center's band played the National Anthem as Disneyland guards lowered the American Flag that night. Upon leaving, the kids thanked Disneyland officials for a wonderful day.

Informational Services Office MCAS, El Tora

### At Home In Japan

Duty in Japan usually means being away from home for most Marines. But Private Donald H. Lorentzen, of "C" Company, 1st Amphibian Tractor Battalion, Third Marine Division, is an exception.

The first thing Lorentzen did when he arrived in the Far East, last October, was telephone his parents . . . in Hayama, Japan. Lorentzen is the son of retired Navy Chief Petty Officer George Lorentzen. His parents have been living in Japan since the veteran petty officer was assigned to the U. S. Naval Base, Yokosuka, in 1950. Chief Lorentzen remained in the Far East as chief inspector for the Military Sea Transport Service when he retired in 1954.

Young Lorentzen attended the base elementary school at Yokosuka and the Yokohama (American) High TURN PAGE



MSgt. Hoyt's family visited a pirate ship at Disneyland Photo by Sgt. W. A. Rich

### WE THE MARINES (cont.)

School. He was accepted for enlistment in the Marine Corps at Yokosuka in November, 1954, and sworn in at San Francisco. Before coming "home" to Japan, Lorentzen was attached to the 2d 155-mm. Gun Battalion at 29 Palms

Asked what his dad's reaction was to his enlisting in the Marine Corps, Pvt. Lorentzen replied, "He said it was a good outfit ... too!"

Informational Services Office

Third Marine Division

### Yanks vs. Service All-Stars

When the New York Yankees, en route to the Orient by plane, touched down in Hawaii for a week of exhibition games, the Armed Services All-Stars was one of the teams scheduled.

For the first seven innings of the exhibition contest, Marine Pitcher Bill Abernathie held the American League champions to a 1-1 tie. When Abernathic was pulled from the game to give other All-Star hurlers a chance to pitch to major league hitters, even the Yankees joined in the standing ovation given him.

The Yanks finally won the ball game, 5-2, but their manager, Casey Stengel, remarked to news reporters after the contest, "We had to pull out all stops to beat those people."

MSgt. Steven Marcus

### Commemoration

Thousands of U. S. Marines streamed through the gates of Aotea Quay and into Wellington, New Zealand during World War II. They were the men of the First Marine Division, who hardly paused long enough to unload and reload their ships before jumping off to Guadalcanal-America's first offensive in the Pacific-and the men of the Second Marine Division who trained in the New Zealand countryside and set themselves for their thrust at Tarawa.

The amity and accord between New Zealand and the United States, which was fostered by these wartime visitors, was commemorated recently with the unveiling of two memorial plaquesone a national memorial to the United States Marine Corps, and the other a presentation of the Second Marine Division Association to the people of New Zealand.

New Zealand's Prime Minister, the Right Honorable Sidney G. Holland. unveiled the national memorial plaque



The Orient-bound New York Yankees stopped off in Hawaii to play an All-Star Armed Forces aggregation which included three Marines



Miss Marion Fischer, who has turned her Philadelphia home into a Marine museum, discusses a sword with Lt. Gen. Pedro del Valle, (Ret.) The sword was given to the general by the Italian government

and made the principal address. The Prime Minister credited the Marines with turning the tide of battle in the Pacific and recalled, "They arrived just in the nick of time. The war in all quarters was going badly for us. At the Solomons, the enemy was mastered—on the sea, in the air, and on the land."

Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, leader of the present United States Antarctic expedition, was the honored guest representing the United States Navy and the Commandant of the Marine Corps. He unveiled the plaque presented by the Second Marine Division Association.

Admiral Byrd noted the friendliness of its people as being the principal cause of New Zealand's popularity. "But," he said, "there are two other factors; the honor and character of the nation, which has no superior in the history of the whole world."

In addition to the Right Honorable Mr. Holland, the Leader of the Opposition, the Mayor of Wellington, and the New Zealand President of the British-American Co-operation Movement paid tribute to the deeds of the American forces.

The national memorial plaque unveiled by the Prime Minister commemorates the Marines' arrival at Wellington and their departure from "the Land Down Under." It was presented by the British-American Cooperation Movement and bears the words: "The United States Marine Corps arrived at this quay in May, 1942, and left from here to serve in the Pacific theatre of war."

Both plaques are set in the wall of Shed 49 near the gates of Aotea Quay. They will be removed and set permanently on the new Aotea Quay gates in the future.

Eight former Marines, members of the Second Marine Division when it landed at Wellington in 1942, were present at the ceremonies.

### **Aerial Marksman**

First Lieutenant Alfred N. Schaaf, a gunnery instructor of Marine Fighter Training Squadron-20, MCAS, Cherry Point, N. C. recently chalked up the amazing score of 123 hits out of a possible 198.

Lieut. Schaaf's past record stands as evidence that his recent feat was not sheer luck. He scored 103 hits out of a possible 143 as a student at the Fleet Air Gunnery School, El Centro, Calif., and in August, 1954, he helped Marine Air Group-33 win the championship trophy at the First Marine Aircraft Wing's Air Gunnery Meet. He was then in Korea, flying the F9F fighter-bomber with VMF 115.

Informational Services Office MCAS, Cherry Point, N. C.

### NOVEMBER CRAZY CAPTION WINNER

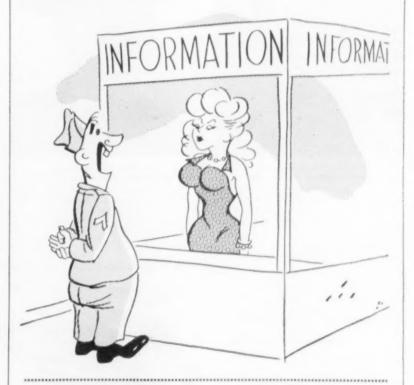


SUBMITTED BY SGT. JAMES R. WILLIG, JR. HQ., 1st MCR&RD 495 SUMMER ST. BOSTON 10, MASS.

"I don't care how long you've been a sergeant; the cutting score is still 236."

Here's another chance for readers to dream up their own Crazy Captions, Leatherneck will pay \$25 for the craziest caption received before April 1, 1956, It's easy. Think up a crazy caption for the cartoon below, print it on the line under the cartoon and fill in your name and complete address. Tear out the cartoon and coupon and mail to Leatherneck Magazine, P.O. Box 1918, Washington 13, D.C.

The winning caption will be published in the May, 1956 issue.



NAME				 	 	
ADDRESS	IN	FULL	*****	 	 	
		****		 	 	

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### LEATHERNECK RIFLE COMPETITION

### DIVISIONS E, F, and G

(Awarded Annually Only)

IN ADDITION TO THESE PRIZES, ALL WINNERS RECEIVED A FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO LEATHERNECK

HIGH RIFLE

Winchester 30-06, M70 Rifle, Telescope Sight, Carved Sling, \$100.00, Gold Medal and Certificate

DIVISION E DIVISION F DIVISION G
OFFICERS: REGULAR AND RESERVE ENLISTED ORGANIZED RESERVE OFFICERS ORGANIZED RESERVE EAD (A COURSE)



239 Capt G. L. Armitage Haßn, MCSC, Albany, Ga.

(B COURSE)



246 TSgt R. B. Wagner 4thSplintCo, New York, N. Y.

(B COURSE)



242 Capt R. J. Hardaway 64thSplinfCo, Tulare, Calif.



DIVISION E OFFICERS: REGULAR AND RESERVE EAD (A COURSE)

DIVISION F ENLISTED ORGANIZED RESERVE (B COURSE)

DIVISION G OFFICERS ORGANIZED RESERVE (B COURSE)

### SECOND PLACE WINNERS

Winchester 30-06, M70 Rifle, Carved Sling, \$75.00, Silver Medal and Certificate

239 IstLt A. M. Leohy HMR-161, Navy #990, FPO San Francisco, Calif.

MCS Quantico Vo.

242 Sgt J. D. Bosell 20thSplintCo, Rockford, III. 241 Capt C. J. Van Til IstAAA AWBn, San Francisco, Calif.

### THIRD PLACE WINNERS

Winchester M97 12 gauge shotgun w/Cutts compensator f/choke and spreader tubes, \$60.00, First Bronze Medal and Certificate

TIE Duplicate Awards 238 1stLt L. Cossedy USS MATHEWS, FPO, San Francisco, Calif. 23dSplinfCo, Tacoma, Wash. 238 2dLt B. G. Walters

241 SSgt L. D. Green

241 1stLt R. L. McCarthy 9thinfBn, Chicago, III.

### FOURTH PLACE WINNERS

Winchester M94 30-30 carbine, \$40.00, Second Bronze Medal and Certificate

238 Capt V. G. Bowen 3dMarDiv, FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

240 SSgt W. M. Lawson 10thinflin, Seattle, Wash. 240 IstLt C. T. Blaine 9thEngCo, Phoenix, Ariz.

### FIFTH PLACE WINNERS

Winchester M75 .22 "Sporter" w/sling, \$30.00, Third Bronze Medal and Certificate

237 2dLt J. H. Webb, Jr. MCTC. 29 Palms, Calif.

240 MSgt G. A. Little 1stTankBn, San Diego, Calif. 240 Capt E. W. Hakala 3dSPGrpCo, Kalamazoo, Mich.

### BRONZE MEDAL AND CERTIFICATE WINNERS

237 1stLt C. R. Longsworth 3dMarDiv, FPO, San Francisco, Calif. 237 IstLt R. H. Freeman MCCD, Philadelphia, Pa. 237 Major W. L. Hill 9thEngrCo, Phoeniz, Ariz.

239 Sgt E. A. Lessard 1stSigCo, Worcester, Mass. 239 Sgt H. S. Bressmon 10thAWBtry, Konsos City, Mo. 238 Cpl J. G. Tyler 13thRifeCo, Santa Monica, Calif.

240 Isthi R. G. Trout 90thSplintCo, Wichita Falls, Tex. 240 Capt L. E. Coker, Jr. 50thSplintCo, Lansing, Mich. 240 Capt T. E. Bourke, Jr. IstTanklin, San Diego, Calif.

2d90mmAAAGunān, Indianapolis, Ind.

2dEngrFieldMaintCo, Portland, Ora.

240 Copt C. Zornes

239 Istht A. J. Rousson

238 IstLi R. B. Corter

58thSplinfCo, Billings, Mont.

### WINNERS OF LEATHERNECK CERTIFICATES

237 Major E. F. Stanley 2dMarDiv, Camp Lejeune, N. C. 236 Capt J. A. Tworek, Jr. USS ANDROMEDA, FPO, San Francisco, Calif. 236 1stLt B. T. Christlieb MCS, Quantico, Va. 236 IstLt A. A. Glozer Force Troops, Camp Pendleton, Calif. 236 Capt H. D. Carrubba MCRD, Parris Island, S. C. 236 Capt B. P. Simmons MCB, Camp Pendleton, Calif. 235 2dLt R. B. Abbey MCB, Camp Pendleton, Calif. 235 Major R. B. Thompson, Jr. MCS. Quantico, Va. 235 Capt V. P. Neshyba MCB, Camp Pendleton, Calif. 235 WO H. E. Larkin MCRD, San Diego, Calif.

237 SSgt H. L. Oestreich 103dSplintCo, Fort Lee, Va. 237 HM2 R. E. Vorpagel 5thSplinffin, Milwaukee, Wis. 237 Sgt D. E. Williams 53dSplinfCo, Charleston, S. C. 237 SSgt A. J. Linebaugh 10thinffin, Seattle, Wash. 237 Pfc D. J. Smith 18thSplintCo, Evanston, III. 237 SSgt A. J. Linebough 30thSplintCo, Ottumwa, lowa 237 SSgt R. D. Skinner 2dSigFieldMaintCo, Alameda, Calif. 237 Sqt D. R. McCallum 4thAWBtry, Madison, Wis. 237 Cpl C. R. Potty

238 Capt J. K. Poters 43dSplintCo, Great Lakes, III. 238 little G. D. Brewer 10thleffe, Seattle, Wash. 237 Capt A. R. Schindler Sthinffin, Toledo, Ohio 237 Capt W. L. Morehouse 57thSplintCo, Albuquerque, N. M. 237 Copt P. R. Hines SthintBn, Toledo, Ohio 237 Copt W. P. Grimes 2d90mmAAAGunBn, Indianapolis, Ind. 4thSplinfCo, New York, N. Y. 237 Pfc D. M. Cosona 236 1stht B. E. Davidson 9thEngrCo, Phoenix, Ariz. 9thEngrGo, Phoenix, Ariz.



The information reprinted on these pages was furnished by the Veterans' Administration in a fact sheet entitled, FEDERAL BENE-FITS AVAILABLE TO VETER-ANS AND THEIR DEPEND-ENTS AS OF OCTOBER 6, 1955. The fact sheet does not have the effect of laws or regulations. More detailed information concerning any benefit may be obtained from the Federal agency administering it. For VA Benefits, applications may be filed at your nearest VA Office. Further information may also be obtained there. Please do not write to the VA Central Office in Washington, D. C.



after discharge depending on amount of mustering-out pay (\$100, \$200, or \$300). No compensation payable for any week commencing more than 3 years after July 26, 1955, or date of discharge, whichever is the later. In no event may compensation be paid for any period after January 31, 1960. Determination of entitlement to unemployment compensation to be made in accordance with applicable State law. Special provisions against duplicate benefits.

Compensation for Service-Connected Death (VA).

Eligibility:

Death of veteran must be result of disease or injury incurred in line of duty. If death is subsequent to service, discharge must have been under other than dishonorable conditions. Payable to unremarried widows, unmarried children under the age of 18 years (with extension to age of 21 years if attending school approved by VA) and dependent parents.

Benefit:

Wartime and Korean Conflict Period: Widow, with no child—\$87 per month. Widow with one child—\$121 (with



\$29 for each additional child). No widow, two children—\$94. No widow, three children—\$122 (with \$23 for each additional child). One parent—\$75; two parents—\$40 each.

Peacetime: All rates are 80% of the wartime rates.



Pension for Non-Service-Connected Death—World War I, World War II, or Korean Conflict Period (VA).

Eligibility:

Payable to unremarried widows, and to unmarried children under the age of 18 (21 years if attending school approved by VA). World War I veteran must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable after 90 days or more service (or for disability incurred in service in line of duty) or at time of death was receiving or entitled to receive compensation, pension, or retirement pay for serviceconnected disability. World War II veteran must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable and at the time of death was receiving or entitled to receive compensation, pension or retirement pay for service-connected disability; or having served at least 90 days during World War II (or having been discharged for

Unemployment Compensation — Korean Conflict Period (Public Law 550, 82d Cong.) (Department of Labor through unemployment compensation agency of the State).

Eligibility:

Active service on or after June 27, 1950, and prior to February 1, 1955. 90 days continuous service or discharge for actual service-incurred injury or disability. Discharge under conditions other than dishonorable required.

### Benefit:

\$26 per week of unemployment (not to exceed 26 weeks) occurring after discharge but not earlier than 90 days after July 16, 1952. If veteran is eligible for mustering-out pay, unemployment compensation not payable for prescribed periods of 30, 60, or 90 days

disability incurred in service in line of duty) at time of death had a definitely ascertainable service-connected disability. Korean Conflict Period same as World War II cases,

### Benefit:

Monthly rates: Widow, no child—\$50.40. Widow, one child—\$63 (each additional child, \$7.56). No widow, one child—\$27.30. No widow, two children—\$40.95. No widow, three children—\$54.60 (each additional child, \$7.56). Not payable to a widow without a minor child or to a minor child whose annual income exceeds \$1,400, or to a widow with a child or children whose annual income exceeds \$2,700.

Social Security Benefits (Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance, Social Security Administration, Department of Health, Education and Welfare).

### Eligibility:

1. General: For the purpose of OASI benefits, active service armed forces during World War II (September 16, 1940, through July 24, 1947) and the post-World War II period (July 25, 1947, through March 31, 1956), shall be deemed covered employment where veteran died in service, or was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable after 90 days of service, or discharged because of disability incurred in line of duty with less than 90 days' service.

2. Special Death Benefit: Survivors of veterans who served between September 16, 1940, and July 24, 1947, inclusive, and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable having had at least 90 days' active service or having been discharged for disability incurred in line of duty, provided death occurs within three years from date of separation and VA compensation or pension is not payable. This special death benefit is not available in case of death of veteran separated after July 26, 1951.

### Benefit:

1. Wage credits of \$160 for each month or any part thereof of active service during stated periods in determining eligibility to, and amount of, monthly benefit or lump-sum death payments. These credits not granted for stated period if periodic benefit payable by another Federal agency, except VA, is based on same period.

In these special death cases, veteran deemed to have died a fully insured individual with assumed average monthly wage of \$160 for purpose of monthly benefits and lump-sum payments.



### Burial Flags (VA)

### Eligibility:

Service during a period of war or on or after June 27, 1950 and prior to February 1, 1955, or service of at least one enlistment, or discharged for disability incurred in line of duty. Discharge under conditions other than dishonorable.

### Benefit

American flag to drape casket and to be presented to next of kin after burial, if claimed; otherwise upon request, to a close friend or associate of the deceased veteran. A flag may be issued for memorial purposes to nearest relative of person dying in service after May 27, 1941. Application may be made at any VA office or at local post office.

Burial in National Cemeteries (Superintendent of National Cemetery where burial is desired).

### Eligibility:

Deceased members of the Armed Forces of the U. S. who die on active duty, or after retirement therefrom, or who served during peace or war, and whose last discharge was honorable; certain citizens of U. S. who served in allied forces; and wife, husband, widower, minor child, and, if authorized by Secretary of the Army, unmarried adult child.

### Benefit:

Burial in a National Cemetery. Contact nearest VA regional office, hospital or domiciliary for information and assistance in handling of request for burial.

Headstone or Grave Marker (Quartermaster General, Department of the Army)

### Eligibility:

Service in the Armed Forces and honorable discharge from last period of service,

### Bonefit:

Headstones or markers furnished without application if buried in National Cemetery. Otherwise make application to Quartermaster General, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C.

Six Months' Death Gratuity (Service Departments).

### Eligibility:

Death incurred in active service from wounds or disease not the result of serviceman's own misconduct.

### Benefit

A sum equal to six months' pay at the rate received by serviceman at time of death.

Guaranty of Premiums on Commercial Life Insurance Policies (VA).

### Eligibility:

Upon application, premiums, indebtedness, and interest on eligible commercial life insurance policies carried by persons in the service, not exceeding in an individual case the amount of \$10,000, may be guaranteed for the period of military service and two years afterwards. Any amount paid by the United States to an insurer on account of a protected policy becomes a debt due to the United States by the insured and subject to repayment. (Art. IV, Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, as amended.)



Compensation for Service-Connected Disability (VA).

### Eligibility:

Disability must result from disease or injury incurred in or aggravated by active service in line of duty, and discharge must be under other than dishonorable conditions.

### Benefit:

Wartime and Korean Conflict Period: Rates range, according to degree of disability from \$17.00 for 10% disability to \$181.00 per month for total disability. Additional amounts payable for specific conditions, such as \$47 for the loss of a foot, hand, or eye. Minimum rate for arrested tuberculosis \$67 per month. Helplessness, blindness, multiple amputations, etc. carry rates from \$279 to \$420 per month. Additional amounts (continued on page 63)



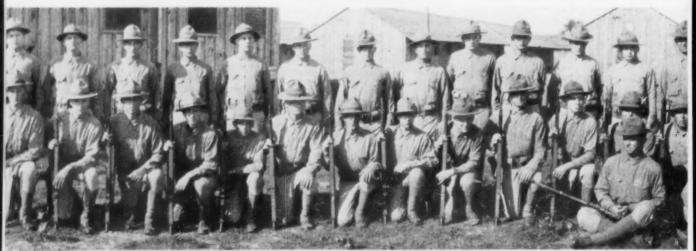
Lieutenants William Ulrich (left), and Randolph McCall Pate, stationed at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (1923)



Submitted by Frank M. Sherwood Marine Barracks, Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, recruits of 1900. Note Lee rifles

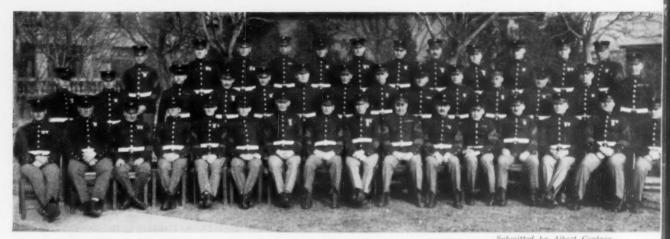
# CORPS

HERE ARE five more of the Old Corps photos which we will print as a regular feature. Leatherneck will pay \$15.00 for old photos of this type accepted for publication. Please include date, outfit or any other available identification. Mail your Old Corps photos to CORPS ALBUM EDITOR, Leatherneck Magazine. Box 1918, Washington 13, D. C. All photos will be returned.



Submitted by Mrs. Harry D. Thomas

World War I Marines of the 97th Drill Company, at Parris Island, South Carolina (1917). The recruits of that era lived in crude, wooden barracks



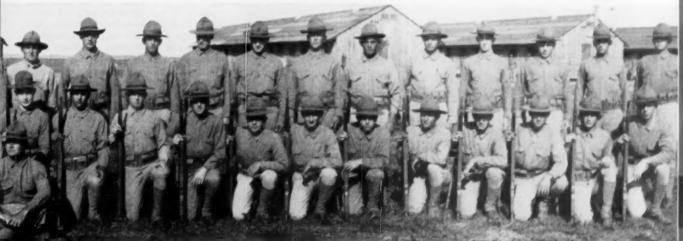
Members of the Sergeants' Mess, Marine Detachment, American Legation, Peking, China, during December

of 1924. Sgt. Major James Kaberna was NCO-in-C. Note variations in the style of chevrons worn then



4

Submitted by Miss Engenia D. Lejeune Generals John Lejeune (second from left) and Smedley Butler, (holding map) during mock Civil War battles on October 1, 1921 Copyright by Underwood and Underwood



### In Reserve



Edited by TSgt. Allen G. Mainard



### THE OLD RESERVE CORPS

For the first time in its history, the Marine Corps is to have Reserve officers above the rank of major. In the past none but Regulars ever got beyond this rank. Now all is to be changed. An examining board has recommended the promotion of three majors to lieutenant colonel, six captains to major, 14 first lieutenants to captain, and 35 second lieutenants to first lieutenant.

From Records of The Reserve Units 1926

Official USMC Photo

Able Company, Eighth Infantry Bn., received the first award of Col. W. A. Churchill's marksmanship trophy



Official USMC Photo

Sergeants J. B. Ferrell and T. G. Schipper of the Sixth Supply Co., escorted Joan Crawford and Nell Sharp for the Memphis, Tenn., showing of "Queen Bee," Miss Crawford's newest picture

### Advertising Pays

(The following item is reprinted from the "Fifth Facts" of the 5th Infantry Battalion, Detroit, Michigan. Each Reserve unit in the country has its own methods for solving recruiting problems. LEATHERNECK MAGAZINE would like to have your particular solution—whether to recruiting, attendance or what. Let other units benefit by your ideas.)

"Some people who wouldn't think of missing a regular Thursday night drill at the Armory shy away from parades, even when they count as paid drills. Coming to the Armory is all right. You're sheltered from the winter winds and you really learn something. But standing around freezing, waiting for the parade to start and then marching down Woodward! What good does that do anyone at all? No sense to it! Not for me!

"Those who think in this vein, and they are more numerous than they should be, seem to forget we live in an age of advertising. If you want to sell your product, you have to bring it to the attention of those who are potential customers. If we want recruits in the battalion, we have to bring the battalion to the attention of those who will be interested in joining. There is no better way of doing this than marching before their eyes down Woodward Avenue. Even if we do nothing more than make the city aware of our existence, we have taken the first steps toward increasing our membership.

"The argument may be offered that our open-house activities acquaint the city with our existence and aims, and to some extent, they do. But most of those who come to open-house are the friends and relatives of members of the battalion, and not themselves eligible for membership. Besides, for every one who comes to the Armory when we have open-house, 10 see us in a parade down Woodward Avenue.

"If we are to grow in numbers, in importance and in the esteem of our fellow citizens, we must have the support of the city in which our battalion has been established. We won't get that support until we are known - well known-and we won't be well known unless we emerge now and then from the fastness of the Armory into the public view. It isn't human nature to be very much concerned about something with which one is unfamiliar. A parade offers us a showcase to display our wares to the public. We know that what we have to offer is worthwhile and that we can sell it if we have half a chance."

Corporel Stack

### The Real Experts

The well-known phrase,"Tell it to the Marines," has been abolished—in Pittsburgh. ...

When a member of the 12th Infantry Battalion asked a newspaper reporter about frequent phone calls to the training center, the newsman replied that his paper's policy has been changed to, "Ask the Marines."

The reason for changing the phrase was simple. The reporter had recognized the members of the Inspector-Instructor Staff as authorities on military matters and, as a result, the paper now "asks them" to verify news about the military before publication.

SSgt. Jeck T. Paxton 4thMCRRD, Philadelphia, Pa.

### Satellite Platoon

The ranks of Reno, Nevada's, 49th Special Infantry Company swelled recently when 17 boys were sworn into the unit. All are students at the Stewart Indian School, located at Carson City, Nevada.

Captain Nicholas Kavakich, Inspec-

tor-Instructor of the 49th Special Infantry Company, said that the mass swearing-in ceremony culminated a three-month process of clearing and obtaining permission from the Department of the Interior. As a satellite platoon, all training will be conducted at the Indian School. Training aids and equipment will be transported from the Training Center in Reno to Stewart for the weekly drill periods. The captain said the idea of a satellite platoon

at Stewart has appealed to him since he assumed I&I duties at Reno.

Staff Sergeant Perry L. Moss, Boy's Physical Education Director at the Indian School, will take charge as platoon sergeant and act as liaison with the parent organization. Moss stated that, in his opinion, a full platoon is not a too far distant goal once training gets under way.

49th Special Infantry Company Reno, Nevada

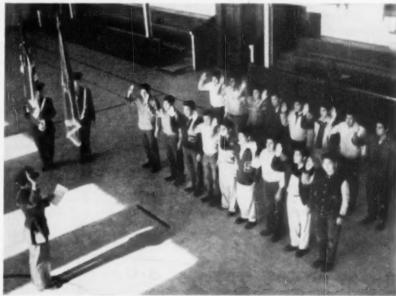


Photo by HMz G. W. Bardall, USN

Seventeen students of the Stewart Indian School at Carson City, Nevada, formed a satellite platoon of Reno's 49th Special Infantry Company recently. The unit will receive its training at the school



Official USMC Photo

New Hampshire Senator, Styles Bridges, fired the first round to officially open the new indoor range of the 18th Rifle Company at Manchester during his inspection of the Reserve Training Center

### MAIL CALL

[continued from page 7]

Miss Laurel Elder, 125 N. Pacific Coast Highway, Redondo Beach, Calif., to hear from Corp. James L. SMITH, #1461889, whose last known address was 29 Palms, Calif.

Miss Ruth Hanger, 520 N. Maria Ave., Redondo Beach, Calif., to hear from Corp. John S. CONOVER, whose last known address was 29 Palms, Calif.

Mr. Robert E. Schieler, Graymont, III., to hear from Sgt. B. A. KAMIN-SKI, whose last known address was 146 Eastern Parkway, Irvington, N. J.

. . .

Corp. Arthur Hill, Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C., to hear from Pfc William B. OLIVER, whose last known address was Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Former Marine Sgt. Frank Kelley, Jr., 738 Spencer St., Monterey, Calif., to hear from Sgts. Ed R. STARK and Homer C. WHEELER, whose last known address was Weapons Co., 2nd Bn, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division. Former Marine Ray Hoerger, 351 | Stuvyesant Ave., Irvington, N. J., to hear from Pfcs Howie MILSTEIN, and Ken MURPHY, of New York.

Former Marine John W. Lane, 144 E. Maujer St., Valley Stream, N. Y., to hear from former Sgt. Ben OGEREK, who served with him in Korea.

Capt. P'On L. Weston, 424 Etiwan Ave., Columbia, S. C., to hear from Major Jim MEYERS, who served with him in Saipan and New Zealand.

Mr. John H. Gartner, 38 Cottage St., Pawtucket, R. I., to hear from LeRoy BUSBY, with whom he served aboard the USS Albany in 1951.

0 0 0

Former Marine Marvin G. Paulson, 5353–35th Ave., S., Minneapolis, Minn., to hear from anyone who was with the 3rd Plt., A-1-7, First Marine Division, or the "Rain Drop Kids," from November 1952 to October 1953.

MSgt. Clayton T. Rundle, 497 E. Walnut St., Oglesby, Ill., to hear from men who served with him in H Co., 3rd Bn, First Marines, in Korea.

END



"Well, that settles that . . . I guess you're not going to retreat."

### SOUND OFF

[continued from page 12]

### CORPS BIRTHDAY BABY

Dear Sir

Here's another Marine Corps Birthday baby. Our son, David Scott Culver, was born November 10, 1954, in San Diego while his father was stationed at Camp Pendleton. We missed the Birthday Ball then.

We missed it this year, too. David's father, Captain A. B. Culver, Jr., is now with the Ninth Marines on Okinawa.

Mrs. A. B. Culver, Jr., 8341 Krenz,

San Diego 11, Calif.

• We hope all three of you can celebrate the Corps' 181st Anniversary together this year.—Ed.

### CHAMBER MEASURE

Dear Sir:

My buddy and I are having an argument over the length of the chamber of the M-1 rifle. He says the chamber is four inches long: I say two inches. Which one of us is right?

Pvt. John T. Walsh MAD. NATTC.

Jacksonville, Fla.

Ordnance Section, HQMC, gave us the following specifications: "After proof firing, breeching space with component bolt shall be 2.654 inches minimum and 2.659 inches maximum."—Ed.



USMC RING

Dear Sir:

I would like to know where I could get the Marine Corps Ring. I'd like to get one as a gift for a boy who is in the Marine Corps Reserve here in New Orleans and none seem to be available in the area.

Miss Frances Lipani 220 Helena St.,

New Orleans, La.

● The Marine Corps League will be happy to process your order for the Marine Corps Ring. See the advertisement on page 11 of this issue.—Ed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 71)

### **VETERAN'S BENEFITS**

[continued from page 57]

payable to veterans 50% or more disabled for wife, children or dependent parents. Peacetime: All rates are 80% of the wartime rates for the same conditions.



Pension for Non-Service-Connected Disability — World War I, World War II, or Korean Conflict Period (VA).

### Eligibility:

Veteran must be permanently and totally disabled, credited with 90 days or more service, unless discharged sooner for line of duty disability, and discharge must be under other than dishonorable conditions.

### Benefit:

The rate is \$66.15 per month, increased to \$78.75 on attainment of 65 years, or after continuous receipt for ten years; regular aid and attendance, \$135.45. Annual income over \$1,400 is bar if veteran has no wife or minor children, otherwise \$2,700 limitation.

Vocational Rehabilitation (Public Law 16, 78th Cong., as amended, and Public Law 894, 81st Cong., as amended) (VA).

### Eligibility:

Active service, some part of which must have taken place between September 16, 1940 and July 25, 1947, or between June 27, 1950, and January 31, 1955. Discharge must be under conditions other than dishonorable. Minimum of 10% service-connected disability due to service within specified periods, or retired from such service because of disability, in either case causing a need for vocational training to overcome handicap of such disability. In general, no training based upon World War II service may be afforded beyond July 25, 1956, nor can training based upon service in the Korean conflict period be afforded beyond nine years after discharge or release from active service or after January 31, 1964, whichever is the earlier. For both groups, these dates may be extended for four additional years in cases of persons unable to pursue and complete training within the basic periods because of medical infeasibility, or because of failure to obtain a corrected discharge or to establish the existence of a compensable service-connected disability.

### Benefit:

Necessary training expenses paid. Special equipment furnished. Travel allowances and loan benefits available. Counseling mandatory. Work toward a definite job objective to create employability. Minimum monthly allowance of \$65 for the veteran without dependents or \$90 for a veteran with dependents. If in full time institutional training-\$75 if no dependents: \$105 for one dependent, and \$120 for more than one dependent. The subsistence when added to the compensation must equal \$105 for the veterans without dependents drawing less than 30%, or \$115 for a veteran with a dependent drawing less than 30%. Veterans drawing 30% or more must have their subsistence and compensation total \$115 for a veteran without dependents or \$135 for a veteran with a dependent. Minimums increased in each case for additional dependents. In the case of a veteran receiving pay for training on the job Administrator may reduce subsistence allowance to amount considered equitable and just.

### Reimbursement of Burial Expense (VA).

### Eligibility:

Payable in case of any wartime veteran or veteran of service on or after June 27, 1950 and prior to February 1, 1955, discharged under conditions other than dishonorable and any peacetime veteran in receipt of compensation at time of death or who was discharged or retired for disability incurred in line of duty.

### Benefit:

A sum not to exceed \$150 is payable as reimbursement for burial expenses of veteran. Person who defrays such expense should make claim.





Each month Leatherneck publishes names of the top three pay grade personnel transferred by Marine Corps Special Orders. We print as many as space permits. These columns list abbreviations of both old and new duty stations. This feature is intended primarily to provide information whereby Marines

may maintain a closer contact with this important phase of the Corps.

This listing is for information purposes only, and is NOT to be construed as orders. It is subject to HQMC modifications.

MASTER SERGEANTS AGCUNAS, Peter T. (014) AirFMF-Par to MarCorCruitSta Seston ALLEN, Gene P. (0189) MarPar to MarCorCruitSta Sfran VERY, Frederick A. (023) 2d MAW AirFMFLant to MCS CamPon FFT CALL, John R. (3527) MarPar to AVERY
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BALL. John R. (3517) MarPac to
MCRDep Pl
BAYLAND. Robert W. (3411) 3dMar.
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BED Lampac Lampac Mo. to 2dMar.
Div. Cambel
BELL. George E. (6113) MCAS
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ELL. George E. (6113) MCAS
Cher't to Air MFPac FFT
BOWSER, James G. (6731) MCAS
Cher't to Air MFPac FFT
BOYER. Richard W. (2161) 2dMarDiv.
to MCRDep Pl
BROGDEN, James F. (8160) 1stMar.
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to tsMarDiv GamPen (6413) AirCAMERON, Maurice FFP
CANNON, Maurice FFP
CANNON, Geyer N. (9441) McAS
Miami Fla to Air MFPac FFT
CARBONNEAU, Raymond J. (3411)
1stMAW to IstMarDiv CamPen
CASH, MIRTON K. (941) 1stMarDiv
CamPen to MarCorCruitSta Des
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ETMEREDGE, Lloyd G. (0121) MCAS
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FIELDER, Philip J. (2311) 2dMar Div
Cambel to MCB Cambel
Gilbert, Withorn D. (3316) 3dMar
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GLAZA, MCB CamPen FFT
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AirFMF Par to AirFMF Par FFT
GOLDMAN, Saul C. (0141) MCS
Quant to MarCorCruitSta Indels
GORDOM, John B. (5511) MAD NATTC Jax to AirFMF Pac FFT
MALE, Nathan N. (3371) 2dMar Div
Cambel to MarCorCruitSta Cleve
MARMON, John F. (6511) MarCorCruitSta Cleve
SupCen Athany to AirFMF Pac FFT
HEMPHILL, Jor W. (0309) IstMAW
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PADEN, Marcus A. (2181) 1stMarDiv
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SCHRADER, Lewis J. (7041) MCAF Santa Ana to AirFMFPac FFT SCHULTZ, Jerome M. (6641) MARTD MARTC NAS Mpls to AirFMFPac SPENCER, Jack T. (4511) 2dMAW AirFMFLant to MarCorCruitSta Chi-

cago STEWART, John W. (3049) IstMAW to MarPac STEIGMAN, Glenn A. (3349) AirFMF-Lant to MarCorCruitSta Albany NY

STODGHILL, Clarence B. (2581) Air FMFPac to MCB CamPen FFT STONER, Harley M. (0141) 9859linf-Co Clarksburg WVa to 20MAW Air-FMFLant STRONG, George A. (3371) ForTros FMFPac 29 Palms to istMarDiv

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BRANTLEY, John E. (6111) MarPac
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BROWN, Raytord R. L. (0141) HQMC
UNKE, Raymond A. (1539) FMFPac
to MarCorCloDep Phila
BUSH Willard A. (1579) 2dMAW
AirFMFLant to MarCorCruitSta Boston
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FODEN, Finlay E. (2111) 2d MarDiv
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FORD, Writiam W. (3049) MarPac to
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KLEEN, Jack W. Sr. (3051) 3d Mar Div
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LANGER, Richard R. (0369) ForTrox
Camtej to AirFMFPac FFT
LATHAM, Joseob A. (0359) 2d Mar Div
Camtej to AirFMFPac FFT
LATHAM, Joseob A. (0359) 2d Mar Div
LANGEN, Richard R. (0359) MCS Quant
to MB 8th & L Sts. Wash DC
LEE. Thomas J. (5819) MCS Quant
to MB 8th & L Sts. Wash DC
LEE. Thomas J. (5819) MCS Quant
to MB 8th & L Sts. Wash DC
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LOEWY, Kurt (631) 8th MCRR D to
MCRDe PI
LOLLAR, Harold J. (6731) AirFMFPac
LOEWY, Kurt (631) 8th MCRR D to
MCRDe PI
LOLLAR, William F. (0141) FMFPac
MASTIN, William F. (0141) FMFPac
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MCB CamPen FFT
MOREAU, Raymond P. (6731) 2d MAW
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FFT
MC GRAW, Harry E. (6431) IstMAW
to ForAvnHqGru AirFMFLant
MC MAHON, Arthur J. (1814) MCS
Quant to MarCorCruitSta Chicago
MC SPARRIN, Wittlam J. (3537) MB
NB Phila to MCB CamPen FFT
NISKERN, Claud N. (0141) MarPac
to MCRDop PI

to MCRUSS PI NIX. Homer (1369) 2dMarDiv CamLej to MCB CamPen FFT ORTEGA. Louis M. (0369) HQMC to istMarDiv CamPen

OXLEY. Wyatt V. Jr. (2771) MCB Cambel to MCB Camben FFT POPP. Gordon F. (2543) FMFPac to IstMarDiv CamPen

RASMUSSEN, Los (0369) MarPac to MCB CamPen FFT

REAGAN, Jorry E. (6613) MAD NAT-TC Mfs to MAD NAS PaxRiv REED, Woodrow W. (3516) ForTras FMFPac 29 Palms to AirFMFPac

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BEYES, Donald B. (3071) 3dMAW to
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RMOADES, Humb J. (9911) MCAS EI
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RICKETTS, Raymond E. (6641) AirFMFLANT to AirFMFLANT (6641) AirFMFLANT (6641) AIRFMFLANT (6641) AIRMCCALELE, Horace M. (0369) MCS
Quant to HOMC
ROMERO, Victor W. (1861) 3dMarDiv
to ZdMarDiv CamLej
to ZdMarDiv CamLej
COMERO, Arrold T. (3371) ZdMarDiv
CamLej to MarCorCruitSta Jackson

SE. Howard L. (3049) MCSFA Tamb Va to MARTD MARTC NAS

St.

RUYOLO, Frank I. (6441) AIFFMF-Pac to AirFMFPac FFT
SANFRATELLO, JADN A. (6511) MAD
NATTC JAX to 2dMAW AIrFMFEAN
SAVAGE, Charles W. (991) MCROE
PITO HOME
CONTROL OF STANK M. (0369) MCS
Quant to MCRUOP II.
SCHWINGDORF, Leonard L. (3051)
MCAS Kannohe Bay Qabu TN to
MCG CamLej
SCOTT, Aifred H. (6441) AIrFMFPac
to AirFMFPac FFT
STZER, Citaries W. (3371) 2dMarDiv
Combos Refus (3619) MCS Quant
to MB 8th & I Sts. Wissh DC
SIMPSON, Vance R. (4111) 3dMarDiv
to MGAAS Mojave Calif
SIGSS, Georee W. (4841)
SIGSS, GEOREE
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### STAFF SERGEANTS

ABEE, Morris D. (0141) MD NRC NB NuvVa to MCB Camben FFT AGUE, Robert M. (3011) MCSFA PTSM Va to MCRDen PT AGUT, Balvador (0141) FMFPac ta AIFFMFPac MANAHAL, Manuel P. (1811) 3dMarDiv to MB FleActs Yukosuka Jasan AMSHCDE, Thomas Jc. (3321) 2dMardigh NC Holl MarCricoviBia Raflego NC Camben FFT BARDEN, Hugh E. (0141) MarPac to MCB Camben FFT BARTON, Charles B. (0141) TTU

BARTON, Charles R. (0141) TTU PhibTracLant NavPhibB Little Creek to MCAS CherPt

to MICAS CherP!
BEANS. William T. (2511) 2dMAW
AirFMFLant to MCRDes SDiego
BECKEMEYER. Charles R. (0309)
MarFac to MCRDes Pt.
BERGER, Paul A. (4031) 3dMarDiy
to MarPac.

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Street

City Zone State

### TRANSFERS (cont.)

BERGFELD, William E. (0369) MQMC to influe Div Camplen BISMOP, Bobby F. (6611) AirFMF-Land to AirFMFPac FFT BOWERS, Rohert L. (3517) 22MAW AirFMFLant to MCB Camplen FFT BREITEMDACH, Haymond (3211) MCC 6FA Plamb Va to 2dMarDiv Com-Lai. BREITENBACH, Raymond (1211) MCG
BFA Planch Va to ZdMarDiv ComLoj

BFOWN, Comer (2816) AirFMFPac

BFOWN, Comer (2816) AirFMFPPac

BUNELL BENEFORM (1811) MCB

BURNELL BOMORDE PI

BUYSEE, Robert R. (2761) ZdMarV

AirFMFLARI to AirFMFPac FMCS

Quant to MB NB Gime Say Cuba

CARLESTER, James O. (2811) MCGB

CARLESTER, James O. (2811) MCGB

CASEY, Robert N. Jr. (2711) MCGB

Miami to MCR Cameron FFY

CASH, Robert B. (1391) ZdMarDiv to

LOS CASEY, Robert B. (1391) ZdMarDiv to

MCSTWITT, Exter M. (3311) 3dMar
CLARK, Robert B. (1391) ZdMarDiv to

MarCoccorrista India

CLAY, Conald C. (2513) IstMarDiv

Camero to AirFMFPac FFT

COCHRAN, Raiph E. (6113) IstMarDiv

Los MarCoccorrista India

CLAY, Conald C. (2513) IstMarDiv

Camero to AirFMFPac FFT

COCHRAN, Raiph E. (6113) IstMarDiv

Los MarCoccorrista India

CLAY, Conald C. (2513) IstMarDiv

Camero to AirFMFPac FFT

COCHRAN, Raiph E. (6113) IstMarDiv

Los MarCoccorrista India

CAMERO No. (1911) MarPac to

MCROCOCORRISTA INDIA

CHANGE SDINGO

CRAWFORD, William E. (3041) 4811
BRINTCE Binghamen Ny to McG

CURRY, Alexander E. Jr. (5731) 2d
CURRY, Alexander E. Jr. (5731) 2d-Cuntej CURRY, Airmander E. Jr. (6731) 2d-MAW AirFMFLant to AirFMFPac GURRY, Alexander E. Jr. (6731) 2dMAW AIFFMFLANT to AirFMFPan
FATS. Frank L. (3011) MCB Camtel
DENTON. Wittam C. Jr. (0309) 5th
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DENTON. Wittam C. Jr. (0309) 5th
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DUMAND. Nathanial K. III (6511)
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DYER. Wittem J. (3043) MacCorSusCen Albany Ga to MacCorCutSta
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Corn. Albany Ga to MacCorCutSta
LUSAN. Robert W. (3041) 3dMarDiv to
IstMarDiv CamPen
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FOLEY, James E. (0141) MarPac to MCB Camples FFT FOSTER, Fred C. (3371) 1st MCRRD 105 CE Camples FFT FOSTER, Fred C. (3371) 1st MCRRD 105 CE Camples FFT FEE (3494) 3d MarDiv 10 MarCorcioDes Phila FOSTER, Noble G. (9399) MD NRC NB Neva to MCB Camples FFT FEE CERICK, Earney R. Jr. (3361) MB NS Ptumh NH MCROD P. 105 CENTRAL CONTROL OF THE CAMPLES OF TH

HANVEY, Wittiam G. (6741) MarPac to MCRDep. 1
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HERDER, Robert L. Jr. (0141) MCS
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HERDER, AND HERDER L. (0389) MarPac
to MCRDep PI
HOLCOMS, David FPac FFT
MOFFMAN, John E. (0369) MarPac
to MCRDep PI
HOLCOMS, David FPac FFT
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to MCG CamPen FFT
HOLCOMS, James C. (0369) MarPac to
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HYATT, Harry A. (0869) MCRDee PI
to Hilmar (Reint) Oabu YU
JACKSON, Bobbie G. (3371) ForTeps
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JAMES, Joe J. (0141) 6th MCRRD to
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JAMES, Luddrick M. (3531) 3dMarDiv
Consely to MarPac
LENSEN, Denald D. (1531) 2dMarW
Arr MF Lant to MCRDep PI
JAMES, Luddrick M. (3531) 3dMarDiv
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KEMP, David L. (5711) 2dMarDiv
Contel to MGG CamPec FFT
KESTER, Jehn E. (5112) MARTD
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MIRK, William M. Jr. (6113) Air-FMFPac to AirFMFPac FFT KISER, John E. (3041) MARTO MARTO NAS Miami to MCG Cam-Pan FFT KROIN, Orville E. (3071) AirFMF-Lant to MCG CamPen FFT KRUEGER, Martin F. ((4631) 2dMAW AirFMFLant to MacG-CraitSta De-

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MC NABB, James D. (4811) NATTU

NAS Pensacots to 2dMAW

NUANEZ, Frank (0369) MarPac to
istMarDiv CamPen.

O'DONNELL, Robert J. (1831) 3dMar-Div to ForTrps FMFLant

OLSON. Philip A. (0141) 3dMarDiv to 8th MCRRD
OSBURN. Ronald E. (3049) MCS
Quant to MCB Campen FFT
OUTRAKIS. Nicholas J. (1911) MCS
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Quant to MCB Campen FFT
OCHER STORM CONTROL (1911) AirFMFPac
to MCB Campen FFT
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to MCB Campen FFT
PARKER, Robert A. (6431) AirFMFLant to MAD NAYTC Jax
PATTERSON. Virgil B. (3316) MarPFPPER, Irvin V. (2633) MCRDep
P1 to AirFMFPac FFT
PHILLIPS. HOWARD W. (1379) FMFPac to InterMFPac MCRDep
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PNUITT. Ray G. (3049) 3dMarDiv
to MarCoc Supcen Albany Ga
RANAGE Robel H. (9811) MCRDep
P1 to MCR Control (1911) Santa
REYNOLDS. Philip L. (4131) Cambel
TO MCR Campen FFT
RICHARDSON. Menny (2535) IstMarDiv Campen to MCR Campen FFT
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MCR Campen FFT
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MCR Campen FFT
SALE. Arthur L. (2773) IstMarDiv
Campen to MB NS Treasured
SCHUSTER, Louis J. (7041) AirFMFTart S. Waite E. Jr. (6111) MCRPac
P1 to MCR Campen FFT
SALE. Arthur L. (2773) IstMarDiv
Campen to MB NS Treasured
SCHUSTER, Louis J. (7041) AirFMFTart S. Waite E. Jr. (6111) MarPac
to FMFTart S. Louis J. (7041) AirFMFTart S. Louis J. Pismb Va to MCB CamLej
SKELTON, Everett O, (0141) MarPae
to FMFPacRep FE Comd Tokyo
Japan
STARRETTE John W. (3371) 3dMarDiv te MCB CamLej
St. MCAS CherPt
STEPANICK, Harry (0141) 3dMarDiv
to MCAS CherPt
STEPANICK, Harry (0141) 2dMAW
Airf MFLant to MarCorCeutiSta Cleve
STREET, Virgil L. (1811) 3dMarDiv
to istMarDiv CamPen
SULLIVAN, William
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SYLVIA, Richard J. (0341) MAD
SYLVIA, Richard J. (0141) MCB
CamLej to MCRDep Pl
TARAPCHAK, Bernard J. (6441) MCB
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TARAPCHAK, Bronald A. (6369) MarPar
TMAYER, Ronald A. (6369) MarPar
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TMAYER, Sonald A. (6369) MarPar
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Canal Zone
WHITE, Robert C. (0369) MCRDes Pi
to MarCorcuitSta Louisville
WILLIAMS, Richard A. (5811) MS
NAS Lakchurst NJ to MCAS EI
Torc FFT
WILLIAMSON, Arnold A. (5741) AirFMFLant to AirFMFPac FFT
WONSON, Mylea P. Jr. (0369) 2dMarDiv Cambel to MCRDes PI
VMASS Richard I. (6313) Airc MF.

WYMAN, Richard L. (6413) AirFMF-Lant to MAD NATTC Mfs ZALESKI, Anthony (0111) MCAB CherPt to MarCorCruitSta Claveland END



### **PENSACOLA**

[continued from page 41]

Corps greats, including Morris Fisher.

Marines at Pensacola give Naval Aviation Cadets in Pre-flight training all their military instructions. The program is headed by Lieutenant Colonel G. L. Allen. Each Pre-flight battalion has four Marine DIs and the officer in charge of each unit is a Marine. Other Marines are stationed at outlying fields in similar jobs.

While guard duty, instruction for NavCads and security for the Naval Air Station are the primary jobs of Marines at Pensacola, they are always on call for disaster work. When a hurricane hit the area in September, 1953, the Barracks was opened to dependents who needed shelter. They were fed in the mess hall and billeted in the Marines' squadbays until the danger passed. Although they were not called out, the riot squad stood by for duty in the city if it would be needed for rescue work or to prevent looting.

Liberty is something of a problem; dates are somewhat hard to come by. Many of the single men prefer to remain on the base during the week and strike out for greener pastures on weekend liberty. It has been reported—but not substantiated—that some Marines have never left the post since their arrival. Realizing the facilities available on the base, plus dances to such bands as Hal McIntyre, it could well be true.

Sports have played a big part in Marine Corps activities, even back in the days when Major John A. Lejeune commanded the Barracks. The trophy case in the main hall of the Barracks is filled with awards which date back many years. This year's basketball team had a good start, winning its first three games.

The Marines in the big Barracks at Pensacola are on call for firing squad details for deceased members of all services buried in the area and for honor guards. Pensacola is a Navy and Marine Corps town and the Corps is popular, a fact evidenced by the reception the Marines always receive during parades and other civic functions.

Duty, recreation and just plain living are good at Pensacola. Col. McLean personally interviewed each new member of the Barracks and spent several weeks meeting every member of his command when he arrived at Pensacola last August. Under the leadership of Col. McLean, Major Cummings and such veteran Marines as Sergeant Major Stec, the Marine Barracks is a sharp, well-disciplined unit.



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by MSgt. Donald F. Ball Leatherneck Staff Writer

HE RANKS OF Sergeant, Major and First Sergeant, dropped in 1949 when a new MOS job structure was adopted, have been reestablished.

The billets of Sergeant Major and First Sergeant are now listed on the Table of Organization as ranks rather than job titles, thus continuing a tradition of service begun with the first formal authorization of a Sergeant Major in the Marine Corps in 1833.

On the premise that the Sergeant Major and the First Sergeant must be outstanding noncommissioned officers of an outfit, in fact as well as in name, the Selection Board carefully screened 855 applications to choose 93 Sergeants Major and 154 First Sergeants.

Qualifications for the ranks of Sergeant Major and First Sergeant are high. They are expected to set the highest standards of professional conduct and leadership; to serve as authorities for other NCOs in basic military subjects; and to supervise routine administration of a command under the direction of the appropriate officer.

In a ground combat situation these top NCOs must be fully qualified to lead a company in the absence of a commissioned or warrant officer.

In line with the authority and prestige of their rank, certain distinctions have been made; their warrants have been signed personally by the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Sergeants Major will have a star in the center of their chevrons while the First Sergeants' chevrons will have a diamond design in the center.

The following Marines are the first to be selected to the ranks of Sergeant Major and First Sergeant:



Dailey, Joseph W Perry, Lewis M., Jr. Krotky, Emory M. Litzelman, Henry J. Sheridan, Lawrence V. Cabe, Elwood Stec, Henry J. Stepp, William F. Stein, Max Fraelle, Frank F. Bryant, Delmas L. Burns, Elmo A. Shaffer, Wayne D. Plauff, Carlton E. Legg, Richard W. Buzhardt, Boyd Leggett, Raymond E. White, Don D. Legrand, Bud H. Shaffer, James W., J. Bauer, Edward F. H. Langley, J. T. Sweet, Herbert J. Howard, Andrew G. Miller, Frank A. Vanalstyne, John E. Farris, John L. McHugh, Thomas J. Thek, John R. Winn, William K. Foy, Lannie D. Luke, Roy R. Huff, Edgar R. Nichols, Ray S. Schwaner, Edwin L. Pendergast, Edward B. Kistler, Fred L. Dunkelberger, Harris B. Knowles, Boyd

### OF 07

Visser, Cornelius Gilliam, Preston S. Benton, Edgar A., Jr.

### OF 08

Hopkins, Everett H. Luckadoo, James B. Sullivan, Joseph M. Stuckey, A. W. Shuffler, Duane F. Joyner, Otis B. Gaines, William L. Lewis, Harry A., Jr. McMullan, Bethea Cook, Jack B. Donovan, William P. Deloxier, Lee C. Boker, Russell O.

### OF 13

Knox, Edwin L. Smiley, Robert G.

### OF 18

Dumont, George L. Switzer, Levy A. Cram, Gordon S. Leach, Frederick C. OF 25

Smith, Pierce H., Jr.

OF 30

Wilson, James, Jr.

OF 35

Morley, Earl W.

OF 64

Baijo, Wallace L.
Cull, James S.
Sardner, Joseph S.
Brown, Vanver N.
Steedley, James E.
Summers, Arthur L.
Driskell, Fronk H.
Devine, Charles J., III
Freeberg, Borge E.
Busher, Robert A.
Johnson, Lester I.
Mathis, Billy F.
Hawkins, Eugene E.
Maximin, William K.
Zacavich, Edward
Black, Richard L.
Warren, Robert W.
Fronce, Clarence L.
Stocks, Floyd P.
Puterbaugh, John L.
Train, Walter T.
Gain, Charles P.
Palma, James C.
Fay, Alfred S.

OF 66

Popichak, Michael

OF 67

Graham, Arthur R. Fox, Keith B. Perisen, Edward D. Lang, Leonard R.

### TO FIRST SERGEANT

Borgomainerio, Russell J.
Lee. Edgar H.
Melville, William F.
Dartex, Nelton J.
Scott, Rayford O.
Hreha, George
Williams, Robert W.
Persicke, Walter R.
Fullen, Edward B., Jr.
Bolkow, George W.
Bergeaux, Leranzo J.
Huff, Charles A.
Bailey, David P.
Rice, Kenneth V.
Salicos, Nick G.
Hartman, Weston A.
LaFrance, Norman R.
MacPhail, Kenneth E.
Krotcoski, Joseph P.
Maore, James F.
Kaeding, Graydon H.
Parice, Nickolas D.
Huly, George
Landrum, James O.
Managan, Joseph P.
Wangan, Joseph P.
Wangan, Joseph P.

Zim, John C. Bryors, Larue D. Patterson, Joseph W. Arras, Leonard H. Ormand, John A. Bailey, Linwood C. Caldwell, Robert H. Harward, Theron Baker, Herschel L. McInnis, John R. Dizon, John K. Arnett James W Fritz, Nicholas Roberts, Francis C. Rusk, Harold W. Boulanger, Francis J. Chase, Kenneth Jenness, Francis B. Tate, Donald S. Burnett, Raymond A. Westerman, J. M. Parrish, Coy L. Pashalek, Frank H. Stout, Lawrence W O'Forrell, Francis T. Land, Chalmers K. Bruton, Herman C. Wyatt, Alfred Brogdon, Wilson E. Hotchkiss, Mehrl A Gayton, Robert M. Schum, Raymond A. Demar, Edmund H. Nastasi, Joseph A., Wilburn, Frederick C. Alsop, Irving R., Jr. Kader, Lawrence W Page, Richard E. Winstead, Johnie B. Perkins, Robert D. Waters, Henry L. Lorenza, Joseph H. Brewer, Patrick R. Brooks, Harry L. Mikalak, Stephen J. Shaw, Elmer G. Thompson, George E. Petty, Arthur O., Ji Tompkins, Richard B. Evans, Warren E. Grant, Theodore M. Flesher, Harry R., Jr. Nusbaum, Martin H. Lanzer, John W.

### OF 07

Brawner, Herman H. Carr, Donald J. Harvey, Robert R. Greeson, Carl W. Prince, Fred W.

### OF 08

McKenzie, Rufus A.
Mills, Charles G.
Scott, Harry E.
Kelley, John T.
Moore, Daniel W., Jr.
Bush, Sterling K.
Potocki, Leonard S.
Mobbs, William
Gaskill, Casper T., Jr.
Hennessee, George M.
Pelley, Murnie W.
Trajanowski, Richard S.
Toney, Ollie J.
Stoneburner, Harry A.

Gas, Herbert J.
Holt, Kenneth L.
Lattansio, John
Klar, William E.
Cook, William E.
Bailey, Vernon E.
Dunahoo, Ernest K.
Bock, Joseph M.
Ebert, Richard R.
Hopkins, Raiph H.
Padget, Oral O.

### OF 11

Huffaker, Lionel Mears, William T. Ferrara, Diego A. Stonley, George F. Mills, Neison G. Klose, Frederick T. Mullins, James R. Roberts, John E. Potts, Arthur H., Sr Teichmann, Edward Grimm, George Carsen, William

### OF 18

Blody, Paul A.
Margan, Russell J.
Malntire, Robert E.
Murphy, Patrick E.
Griffin, Clair E.
Nave, Bert R.
Mignacce, John
Capps, Herace E., Jr.
Myrick, Julian M.
Cady, William A.
Moran, William J.
Mihalek, Ambrose F.
McGinnis, Sterling

OF 21

Frizzell, Richard T.

OF 23

Brown, William M., Jr.

### OF 25

Layland, Raymend S, Kingan, Charles A., Jr, Hosback, Carl M. Grakam, Harlan L. Jenes, Raymond T., Jr. Modges, George W.

OF 30

Sandorello, Louis Ginsburg, Israel J. Tompkins, Richard D.

### OF 35

Williams, Fawler S, Robidous, Victor N. Heinzel, Frederick A. Stinecipher, Robert H., Jr Hand, Mack O. Arnold, Wayne, Jr. Britt, Roy W. Foster, Albert R.

### MILITARY TOURNEY

[continued from page 25]

who spend their working hours marking and grading lesson papers were definite underdogs, but they proved that a Marine is first a field soldier and a specialist second. In the words of a Barracks Detachment NCO, "Next year we won't take them so lightly."

### SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Compass Course—Won by Pfc J. R. Webanbauer and Corp. J. L. Gregory, MCI.

Best Turned Out Marine-Pfc R. O. Koch, MCI.

Close Order Drill — Won by 1st Squad, 2d Platoon, Barracks Detachment.

Volley Firing-Won by the Drum and Bugle Corps.

O'Grady Drill-Won by Corp. J. A. Heaton, Barracks Detachment.

Best Looking M-1 Rifle—Won by Sgt. F. P. Hanke, Special Duty.

First Aid Carry Relay—Won by Barracks Detachment.

Disassembly and Reassembly of the M-1 Rifle-Won by Corp. G. E. Peck-



inpaugh, Bks. Det., 50 seconds.

Hand and Arm Signals—Won by 5th Squad, 2d Platoon, MCI.

Disassembly and Reassembly of .45-Caliber Pistol—Won by Corp. P. E. Egeli, MCI, 32.5 seconds.

Shelter Tents-Won by 2d Platoon, Barracks Detachment.

Wall Scaling—Won by 2d Platoon, Barracks Detachment.

Machine Gun Drill — Won by 3rd Platoon, MCI.

60-mm Mortar Drill-Won by 3rd Platoon, MCI.

Hand Grenade Throwing — Won by Sgt. C. A. Hunt, MCI.

River Crossing by Rope — Won by Corp. G. W. Blakeslee, Bks. Det.

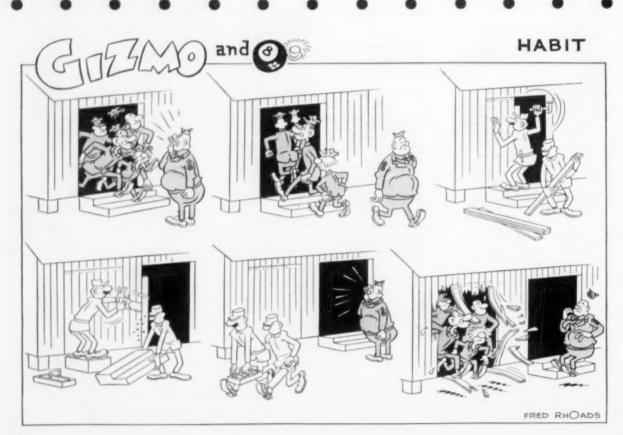
BAR Team Assembly Relay-Won by 2d Platoon, MCL

Pie Eating Contest-Won by Sgt. J. W. Harkins, MCI.

Winning Platoon—2d Platoon, MCI Detachment, 34 points.

Winning Squad—2d Squad, 1st Platoon, Barracks Detachment, 23 points. Individual High Scorer—Corp. Robert J. Sevieri, 16 points.

ENG



#### SOUND OFF

[continued from page 62]

#### RETEST NEEDED

Dear Sir:

I was released from the Regular Marine Corps as a sergeant on August 5, 1955. After being out 45 days, I reenlisted for four more years, coming back in with the rank of corporal. Now, will I have to take the test for sergeant over again as I already successfully passed it during my previous hitch?

Corp. Kenneth P. Easton Supply Co., Ser Bn., Marine Corps Schools,

Quantico, Va.

· Enlisted Section, Promotion Branch, HQMC, states that you "will have to be readministered the General Military Subjects Test at the E-4 level to achieve competition for promotion eligibility to the grade of sergeant. Passing scores on appropriate tests become invalid when the grade in which administered is vacated for any reason."-Ed.,

#### CORRESPONDING CORRESPONDENT

Dear Sir:

In the Sound Off item, "Whose Initials?" in the October, 1955, issue you reference MCM 21002.3 and state that in certain cases the originator's code, drafter's code, and typist's code are

I cannot interpret this paragraph to read as you state without reading between the lines. I have observed correspondence in different commands which was typed in the manner you state. However, it seems as though each command or commander has a different idea on which method to use.

The Navy Correspondence Manual states. "An originator's code, formed according to local instructions and serving as the basic identification symbol. must appear on all outgoing correspondence. The originator's initials and typist's initials are not required on correspondence.

Please clarify this.

Sgt. George L. Lunt, Jr., MB. USNS, Navy #3002, c/o FPO, San Francisco, Calif.

· Chapter 16, U.S. Navy Regulations, provides for the authority to conduct official correspondence. The preparation of correspondence is contained in the Navy Correspondence Manual issued by the Secretary of the Navy.

MCM 21002.3 makes further provision and gives a broader outline with reference to the authority to conduct correspondence and generally enumerates the persons concerned and refers to them as "Originators."

Paragraph 8, page 2, Navy Correspondence Manual, is the only reference made to an "Originator's Code." (This term does not appear in Chapter 16. U.S. Navy Ress nor in MCM 21002.3.) Defining "Originator's Code": it is a system of letters or serial numbers used to indicate the organizational unit. They are used on correspondence for reference and record purposes,

You may be somewhat confused when you apply the term "Originator" to that of "Originator's Code," each having a different definition

An official letter from an individual to the Commanding Officer or via the chain of command does not require an originator's code.-Ed.

#### OLDEST BRANCH?

Dear Sir:

When Captain McCutchen appeared on the TV program "\$64,000 Question," he referred to the Marine Corps as "the nation's oldest and the world's finest fighting force."

#### ANSWERS TO CORPS QUIZ ON PAGE 10

1 (c); 2 (b); 3 (c); 4 (b); 5 (b); 6 (c); 7 (b); 8 (b); 9 (a): 10 (a).

Of course, we know we're the "finest fighting force" but do we have a legitimate claim to the title of "oldest?"

MSgt. W. W. Hershey 7950-B Corsair Dr.,

Millington, Tenn.

· Historical Branch, HQMC, states: "The claim that the U.S. Marine Corps is the oldest branch of our armed services cannot be substantiated. As most authorities agree that the Army, Navy and Marine Corps had their beginnings in the Revolutionary War, it would seem that a statement to the effect that the Marine Corps is one of the oldest military organizations in the United States would be more appropriate."-

#### SEEKS PUCS

Dear Sir:

What are the cut-off dates on the Presidential Unit Citations the First Marine Division received in Korea?

Sgt. Jerry D. Schweikert P.O. Box 628

Orange, Va.

• The First Marine Division was awarded two Presidential Unit Citations for service in Korea during the periods September 15, 1950, to October 11, 1950, and November 27, 1950, to December 11, 1950.-Ed.

END



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### **BULLETIN BOARD**

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TWO ADDITIONAL STATES AUTHORIZE KOREAN BONUS . . . Besides the eight states already authorizing a bonus for personnel having military service since the beginning of the Korean conflict in June, 1950, Delaware and New Hampshire have announced bonuses for their veterans. The following information pertains to these two states. The November, 1955, issue of Leatherneck carried detailed information on the bonus laws in the other eight states: Connecticut, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, South Dakota, Vermont and Washington.

#### DELAWARE

AMOUNT: \$15.00 per month for stateside service. Maximum \$225.00. \$20.00 per month for overseas service. Maximum \$300.00. A maximum of \$300.00 is payable to veterans with service-connected disabilities of 60% or greater.

SERVICE: Active duty between June 25, 1950 and January 31, 1955.

RESIDENCE: One year pre-service residency.

DEADLINE: January 1, 1957.

NEXT OF KIN: \$300.00 maximum will be paid to survivors of servicemen who died during, or as a result of, the Korean War.

Mr. Paul Podolsky Executive Chairman Delaware Veterans Military Pay Commission Wilmington, Delaware

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE

AMOUNT: \$10.00 per month regardless of duty station.

Maximum \$100.00.

SERVICE: Minimum of 90 days service between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953.

RESIDENCE: Minimum of one year preceding active duty.

DEADLINE: None.

NEXT OF KIN: Survivors of deceased veteran eligible for \$100.00 maximum payment.

ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO: State Adjutant General's Office State Military Reservation Concord, New Hampshire

SOME STATES STILL PAYING WORLD WAR II BONUS . . . The following states are still paying a bonus to their residents for service during World War II. For further information write to the address given.

MASSACHUSETTS: No deadline.

ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO:
Bonus Division
15 Ashburton Place
Boston 8, Massachusetts

MICHIGAN: Deadline June 1, 1956 (only veterans still in service or in military veterans' or state hospitals

now eligible).

ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO:

Bonus and Military Pay Division
Lansing 1, Michigan

NEW HAMPSHIRE: No deadline.

#### BULLETIN BOARD (cont.)

ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO: Adjutant General's Office State House Concord, New Hampshire

NEW YORK: No deadline. ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO: Veteran's Bonus Bureau 1875 N. Broadway Albany 4, New York

PENNSYLVANIA: Deadline December 31, 1956 World War II Veteran's Compensation ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO: Bureau Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

VERMONT: No deadline. ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO: Adjutant General's Office Montpelier, Vermont

ELECTRONICS TRAINING . . . Applications are desired by HQMC from qualified male Marine volunteers for electronics training.

Qualifications: All ranks eligible, GCT 110, PA 100, 30 months obligated service on reporting date. personnel are encouraged to request assignment to the Electronics Technicians Class "A" Course via official channels to CMC (Code DFB). This course lasts 16 weeks and is given at either the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill., or the Naval Station, Treasure Island, Calif.

Successful graduates of this course will be transferred to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif., where they will be assigned to the Communication Electronics School Battalion. The Battalion assigns incoming students to a Basic Radar Course or a Basic Radio Course which lasts about eight weeks.

Upon completion of either of these courses, the student is designated for specific training in one of the following military occupational specialties:

2711 -- Integrated Fire Control Technician (MAAA) 2721 -- Integrated Fire Control Technician (LAAA) 2731 -- Integrated Fire Control Technician Guided Missile

2741 -- Radar Technician 2751 -- Guided Missile Electronics Technician 2771 -- Radio Technician

6621 -- Aviation Radio Technician

6641--Aviation Radar Technician Should a Marine accepted for electronics training have less than 30 months obligated service, he will be directed to either reenlist or extend his present enlistment prior to detachment from his present duty station.

PERMANENT GRADES FOR ENLISTED MARINES . . . Temporary warrants of enlisted Marines, in effect since 1950, have now been made "Permanent." Included in the blanket order were reservists on inactive duty. The only exception was enlisted reservists who voluntarily accepted an administrative reduction in order to be assigned to or retained on extended active duty. When they are released to inactive duty, the grade from which they accepted the reduction will be made permanent.

Date of Rank on the Permanent warrants will be the same as that shown on the temporary warrants.

Temporary commissioned or warrant officers whose permanent status is enlisted will be given a permanent enlisted grade in the same grade and with the same date of rank as that held at the time of appointment to commissioned or warrant status, or any enlisted grade and date of rank to which they were later promoted.

New Certificates of Appointment will not be issued. All future enlisted promotions and appointments will be permanent, unless otherwise directed.



# BOOKS REVIEWED

Books reviewed on this page can be ordered at discount from LEATHERNECK BOOKSHOP, Box 1918, Washington 13, D. C.



ASSAULT BATTLE DRILL by Major General James C. Fry, USA. The Military Service Publishing Company, Telegraph Press Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Price \$2.00

"Battle," says General Fry, "is a competition, with death as a penalty for errors, and survival as a prize for smart and intelligent performance." Assault Battle Drill is the end result of 23 years of soldiering in every command echelon from platoon leader to division commander. Many of the ideas and the training technique set forth are a result of General Fry's experiences as a regimental commander in the Italian mountains during WW II. Others come from his experience as commanding general of the Second Army Division in Korea.

Many battles and firefights are lost because the individual soldier does not know just what is expected of him in the assault. Team training of small units under simulated battle conditions cannot completely prepare a man for the shock of battle, but will give him confidence and a realization of the job at hand. Assault Battle Drill sets forth training technique for the units who must dislodge tenacious enemy elements delivering aimed rifle and machine gun fire against them.

Major General Orlando Ward commented in the foreword of Combat Actions in Korea that "one of the biggest reasons for failure on the field of battle is not knowing what to do next . . ."

Assault Battle Drill was written with this in mind—to give the individual soldiers, from privates to unit commanders, an effective guide for combat readiness training.

Allen G. Mainard



MODERN JUDO, Volume III, The complete 40 Gokyo Techniques, by Charles Yerkow. The Military Service Publishing Company, Harrisburg, Pa.

Price \$4.00

Modern Judo, like modern warfare, is an intensely intricate business about which no one knows everything, and few know very much. "No one," admits author Charles Yerkow, "is a highly skilled exponent of the entire Gokyono-Waza" — the Five Principles or Stages of Technique Instruction.

"There is but one way," reveals Yerkow, "to acquire skill in Judo; go out on the mat and practice intelligently, preferably with the advice and help of a good teacher." Another way—Judo via book learning—however, also has its advantages and even some of the black belt masters have confided in Yerkow that they had been able to perform a particularly complicated technique only after studying it in Judo books.

Volume I of the Modern Judo series involved Basic Technique for self defense and attack; Volume II, Advanced Technique, was a follow up with countering techniques in throwing. Volume III, liberally illustrated, contains the most advanced throwing principles.

Paul Sarokin



ACROSS THE HIGH FRONTIER by William R. Lundgren. William Morrow & Co., Inc., 425 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y. Price \$3.75

Actions by individuals help us date the eras of our history. King John and the Magna Carta, Columbus and the Discovery, the Wright Brothers and Kitty Hawk, each opening new frontiers of law, land and flight. Now another name has been added, Major Charles E. Yeager, USAF, the first man to fly faster than the speed of sound.

Across the High Frontier is the detailed, if somewhat romantic, account of the development of a man and an airplane. Until Major Yeager broke the sound barrier in the Bell X-1 no one knew exactly what would happen to pilot or plane. That it took a great deal of personal courage to attempt such a feat is understood. Yeager had the courage, as evidenced by his record as a fighter pilot during WW II-11 verified kills and an escape from France when he was shot down. The actual flight which penetrated the sonic barrier was almost anti-climactic. The real story is in the development of the unique aircraft and the painstaking planning and study for the great

Major Yeager's flight did more than prove man could safely enter supersonic speeds—it may well have been the wedge needed to pry open man's entrance into space.

Allen G. Mainard



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server and prisoner.

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3. FIX BAYONETS! By Col. John W. Thomason, Jr. Reprinted by popular demand this book contains vivid sketches of the average Marine's experiences in the trenches of WWI.

Regularly \$4.00 Discount Price \$3.40

4. THIS IS WAR! A photo-narrative of the Marines in Korea, authored by Life photographer David Douglas Duncan. The majority of these action photos are published for the first time in this book.

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5. ATOMIC WEAPONS IN LAND COM-

BAT. Widely praised as an excellent contribution to military literature, this book relates the effect atomic weapons will have on tactics, strategy and the infantryman.

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11. GUIDEBOOK FOR MARINES. This is the new fifth revised edition of the popular Marine reference manual. Valuable to noncome and "boots" alike.

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12. PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE KOREAN WAR. This 386-page book is profusely illustrated and also contains reports of former Supreme Allied Commanders in Korea, General Matthew Ridgway and General Mark Clark.

Regularly \$3.95 Discount Price \$3.40

13. USMG OPERATIONS IN KOREA: THE PUSAN PERIMETER. The first of a proposed five-volume Marine history of Korea. This book is a detailed account of the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade's action during the initial phase of the Korean conflict.

\$2.00

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#### CAPITAL RESERVISTS

[continued from page 45]

manding Officer was Major Henry W. Bransom, a wily veteran of World Wars I and II and one of the first Marine Corps officers to attend the U.S. Navy's Radar Training School at Sea Island, Georgia. Now a lieutenant colonel, Bransom still commands MACS-24 although he went on active duty with the rest of the squadron in August, 1950, and served a 16-month stint in Korea from February, 1951, through June, 1952.

Col. Bransom is a banker in civilian life but he thinks his job of computing speed, distance and altitude of possible enemy aircraft is just as vital as computing interest and bank discount rates. He takes a personal interest in every member of his outfit and anyone with a problem knows that the "Old Man"

has a sympathetic ear.

The colonel, his Executive Officer, Major Robert Young, and the squadron's Leading Chief, MSgt. James P. O'Brien, "grew up" together in the Marine Corps' air warning and air control units. They helped form the first "fighter direction" squadron—as the air control squadrons were then called-at Cherry Point in 1943 and have served in the same field ever since, MSgt. O'Brien is a telephone installer-repairman with the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company and has been Col. Bransom's Leading Chief on three separate occasions. He was with him at Okinawa in 1945, when the colonel was Executive Officer of the first Marine Corps air warning unit of group size

to operate in a combat area. As his Leading Chief with the Marine Tactical Air Control Squadron in Korea, O'Brien once stood by Colonel Bransom for a full 14-hour stint before the radar scope while Red "bogies" menaced the Marine positions.

While MACS-24 sets up operations in its mobile units near St. Elizabeth's Hospital, the pilots of VMF 321 tune up their big, powerful Douglas Skyraiders and prepare to take off from Anacostia's runways to intercept at the control squadron's direction.

The "Hell's Angels" Squadron came to Washington by way of activation as an Air Reserve squadron in the early Spring of 1946. More than 50 officers and men were present at the activation meeting, many of whom had served with the squadron in the South Pacific. When it was mobilized on March 1, 1951, lawyers, scientists, government workers, a peacetime psychologist and a mortician were included in the occupations of the men who donned uniforms and took up full-time duties at the Air Station. The squadron designation was retained at Anacostia throughout the Korean conflict, but the personnel were funneled into regular Marine Corps air units. Recruiting to rebuild the squadron began in May, 1951, and by August of that same year the "Hell's Angels" of Washington had 24 officers and 156 enlisted men-enough to hold a successful 15-day active-duty-fortraining period at their home station.

Today the squadron has 171 enlisted men and 35 officers, 23 of whom are naval aviators. Lieutenant Colonel Edward C. Montgomery, of Hillsboro, Va., heads the squadron. As a civilian, he

flies giant passenger planes for Capital Airlines but gets his biggest kicks out of jockeying the heavily-ordnanced single-engined Skyraiders on weekends.

Most of the squadron personnel are "professional reservists"-donning uniforms on a full time basis only when necessary-but not all of them fall into that category. Many of the plane captains, flight ordnance men and mechanics are high school students, grocery clerks or wage earners with no combat or military experience. Nevertheless, under the expert tutelage of salty veterans of World War II and Korea they maintain a high level of efficiency in their jobs and a VMF 321 plane has never left the ground until it passed a rigid safety inspection.

The story of the Marine Corps reservists in Washington would not be complete without a word about the Volunteer Training Units. They meet without pay, sometimes as often as once each week, with the objective of staying close to their military specialty. The Public Information Unit. commanded by Colonel Winslow H. Randolph, meets once each week in the Veterans Administration Building in downtown Washington and is an outstanding example of the "Gung ho" spirit shown by the men and women of the Volunteer Training Unit. Between 30 and 35 of the 42-man group arrive for meetings every week to write feature news articles, radio scripts and to catch up on the latest policies of the Corps' public information program. Once each year the unit spends four or five meeting nights judging the various camp and station newspapers for the annual Unit Newspaper Award made by the Division of Reserve.

About 20 reservists from the PIO VTU go on two weeks active duty each year, usually as individuals attached to an Organized Reserve unit. They prepare news releases and feature stories on members of the unit for consumption by hometown newspapers, radio and television stations. An eight-man team, headed by Captain William Frank, a World War II combat correspondent, gave full news coverage to the Marine Corps teams entered in the 1955 National Rifle and Pistol Matches held at Camp Perry, Ohio. More than 650 hometown news stories, several feature articles released through the wire services and 400 photographic prints of the Marines in action were prepared and distributed by the team.

The Marine Corps reservists have been called into action twice since the 401st Company was formed in 1929 and both times they have been trained and ready to take their places in the Regular Establishment. They will be again, if and when they are needed.



#### MAJOR KOMORI

[continued from page 37]

but self-destruction."

Headquarters, however, was not impressed and ordered him curtly to continue his mission. "Wondered what to do about the order all night long," Komori recorded in his diary. "Could not sleep last night . . . I felt dizzy all day today."

The fact was that Shinjiro Komori had a bear by the tail. The chief of Staff, Eighth Area Army, put it bluntly in forwarding the hero's third Imperial Commendation: "Today the situation has developed to a critical point. It is so critical that the 100 million on the home front and the men overseas must have the courage and determination to sacrifice themselves for the cause of the Empire."

He was not referring merely to the Arawe-Merkus region but to the entire strategically important island. Back in December the U.S. First Marine Division had seized the Cape Gloucester airdrome (a real one), had thoroughly clobbered General Matsuda's 65th Brigade by mid-January, and was currently chasing its remnants more than 60 miles to the eastward along New Britain's northern coast. Unremitting pressure from the tightening ring of Allied bases around Rabaul had so atrophied air facilities at that onetime bastion that the high command was seriously contemplating evacuation of all such planes as remained operational to Truk, a move actually accomplished on 23 February.

But Japan was not broadcasting these matters to the world. The only bright spot in the whole sorry picture was Komori's heroic defense of the "airdrome" which nobody wanted, and anyone listening exclusively to Radio Tokyo during this period might well have come away with the impression that the entire New Britain campaign was being fought there. To withdraw the hero now would leave Tokyo Rose and her playmates tongue-tied. There was a matter of face involved; so the man whose rise to fame stemmed directly from a misguided news release by General MacArthur's public relations staff stayed on while the chances for a successful withdrawal slipped away.

One encouraging incident occurred when the Imperial Navy succeeded in getting a large shipment of supplies into Iboki by submarine just before Matsuda's rear guard had to evacuate that place with those damned Marines breathing hot on their necks. Included was a sizeable assortment of liquors,

of which airdrome defenders received their share. It was the first liquor any of them had seen in more months than they liked to remember. Komori called all of his officers together for a good old-fashioned binge. They drank the conventional toasts to the Emperor, the Empire, the Army, the Navy, and went on improvising far into the night. As the major confided to his diary; "It was fun." But the diary also records that he suffered a three-day hangover as a result and was still feeling rocky and depressed when he received the welcome warning order to prepare to fall back northward across the island and reinforce what was left of the 65th Brigade rear guard.

Major Komori departed the scene of his fame at 0630 on February 28, 1944, with his depleted command—ragged soldiers weak from hunger, many of them sick or wounded, making pitifully slow progress along crude trails which led over rugged mountains, through dense jungle and across monsoon-swollen streams.

"I am leaving behind the graves of 150 men," he recorded in writing an end to a mission conceived in glory and terminated in futility.

Two days after he joined the brigade rear guard, the Marines, by dint of a prodigious leapfrogging operation, seized the Willaumez Peninsula, 60 miles to the eastward and squarely on the flank of the only practicable escape route toward Rabaul.

At 0830 on the morning of April 9, 1944, a Marine patrol near the base of the Willaumez Peninsula came suddenly face to face with a group of four bedraggled Japanese. It was one of those abrupt jungle encounters that allow little time for reflection or deliberation. The flurry of shooting that ensued killed three of the Japanese and wounded the fourth, who thereupon surrendered.

He gave his name as Corporal Isamu Kozuki, lately orderly to the commanding officer, 1st Battalion, 81st Infantry, Imperial Japanese Army. And he identified two of the bodies as those of his late chief and of Lieutenant Tadeo Sato, one-time battalion adjutant.

Many weeks and many, many weary miles from the locale of his great adventure, time had run out for Major Shinkiro Komori, IJA, heroic defender of an illusion which had a brief and fitful existence as an airdrome in the minds of Imperial Japanese staff officers in Tokyo. A search of his pitifully slender pack brought to light the personal diary from which many aspects of the Japanese side of this account have been derived.



## Gyrene Gyngles



#### Peculiar Way

The old top kick is rugged they say But built in such a peculiar way. His pouch protrudes beyond his belt, And his skin is tanned like an animal pelt.

His eyes are red as coals of fire And the rings beneath could circle a tire. His complexion is a blend to Jamaican

And you've heard the expression, he's a marching drum.

His clothes are neat, and shoes well shined The example he sets is well defined. When giving orders you can really tell, If you don't obey, it will sure be hell.

But under the mask of this old Marine Lies a heart of courage and patience serene. He's trained many a man and his only yen Is accomplishing his mission, and the respect of his men.

This he has done all along the route Though times have been tough and situation in doubt,

So when you pass by this old devil dog Consider it an honor if he should nod.

If you do your job and live the strife As that old top kick, in your full life, Regard it a tribute if you hear them say, Man! Is he built in a peculiar way.

Capt. Wil Overgoord

#### The Right Choice

"Why didn't you join the WACs?" they say,

To wear the color brown, And serve with the U. S. Army— But I look at them and frown.

"Why didn't you join the WAVEs?" they say.

To wear the color blue, And serve with the U. S. Navy — As they sail the ocean through.

"Why didn't you join the WAFs?" they say,

To wear their color, too, And serve with the U. S. Air Force— And fly through the sky so blue,

I turned to them all and said, I'm proud to wear my greens, 'Cause I'm serving with the fighting men— The UNITED STATES MARINES,

Pfc Florence Panek



#### You Join the Corps

You join the Corps, they ask you why, Then you think, and heave a sigh. You think of the history and tradition it holds.

Yes, there's a reason but it can't be told.

No, not in words the way that you feel, For some folks just don't think it's real. They look at you with a downcast eye, You look at them and wonder why.

They think not of the things we have done, So these wars may be honorably won. You wouldn't know what we mean, Unless you were a WOMAN MARINE.

Sgt. M. F. Harper



#### The Crimson and the Gold

From the blood of battle, we got the red, Shed by Marines who fought 'til dead. We made it crimson, the brightest tone, And it made a flag, but stood alone.

Then from the sun we captured the gold, To show the value of the brave and the bold.

The Gold and the Crimson, side by side, Proclaiming a unit fierce with pride.

Then "SEMPER FI" the battle call, That ran through the veins of one and all. "ALWAYS FAITHFUL" to country and name,

To always show courage and never shame.

Then the symbol, to show their right. The eagle to show their claim to height, The globe to show a place called home, The anchor for the seas they roam.

The Symbol, the Call, the Colors, the Name.

Fly high on the mast like a burning flame, Oh, Crimson and Gold, with pride we're true.

Only one flies higher; the Red, White and Blue.

Pfc Harold Gittler

#### Wave at Them

Complaints daily reach my ears, Of the aircraft overhead. Some cause disturbances and other fears, As you lie upon your bed.

Each night it seems the jets roar by, Causing static to T. V.! Each pilot tense, straining his eyes, Against the night, the black endless sea.

The planes ruin programs by booming roars.

Interrupting romance, humor and musical scores.

How different the attitude toward these, our friends,

As the "yesterdays" and the "remember whens!"

Remember the war in '42? THEN those planes looked good to you, Strafing the enemy up ahead, Bombing and twisting enemy lead.

Then in Korea during '51, The Panthers weren't the only ones. Banshees, Choppers and prop jobs too! They made the job a lot easier for you.

Now you don't need them and so you curse, Their angry howl and resounding bursts. Don't damn them, Marine, just "remember when."

And instead . . . smile, and wave at them.

Pfc Tom Bartlett

# BIGGER BETTER

30 WEAPONS 167 MEDALS 389 CASH AWARDS

#### CONTEST DIVISIONS

- "A" Staff NCO's
- "B" Sgts & Cpls
- "C" Pfcs & Privates
- "D" Recruits

#### PRIZES AWARDED

(1 January-31 December 1956)

#### QUARTERLY

ANNUALLY

3 Cash Awards

- 3 Rifles
- 83 Cash Awards
  - 3 Medals
- 35 Medals 83 Certificates

#### CONTEST DIVISIONS

- "E" Officers (Regular and Reserve EAD)
- "F" Enlisted (Organized Reserve)
- "G" Officers (Organized Reserve)

#### ANNUALLY

- (1 November 1955-31 October 1954)
- 15 Riffes
- 24 Medals
- 54 Cash Awards 54 Certificates



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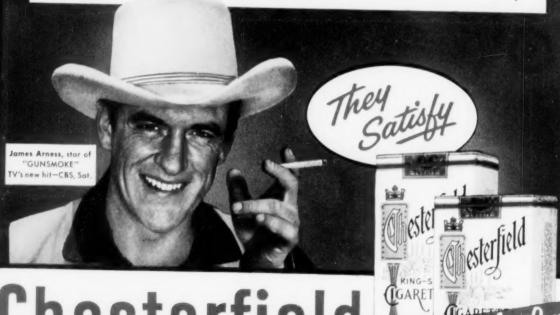
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